

THE AMERICAN LEGION

61st NATIONAL CONVENTION

AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL
HEADQUARTERS LIBRARY

**A BIG
TEXAS
HOWDY!**

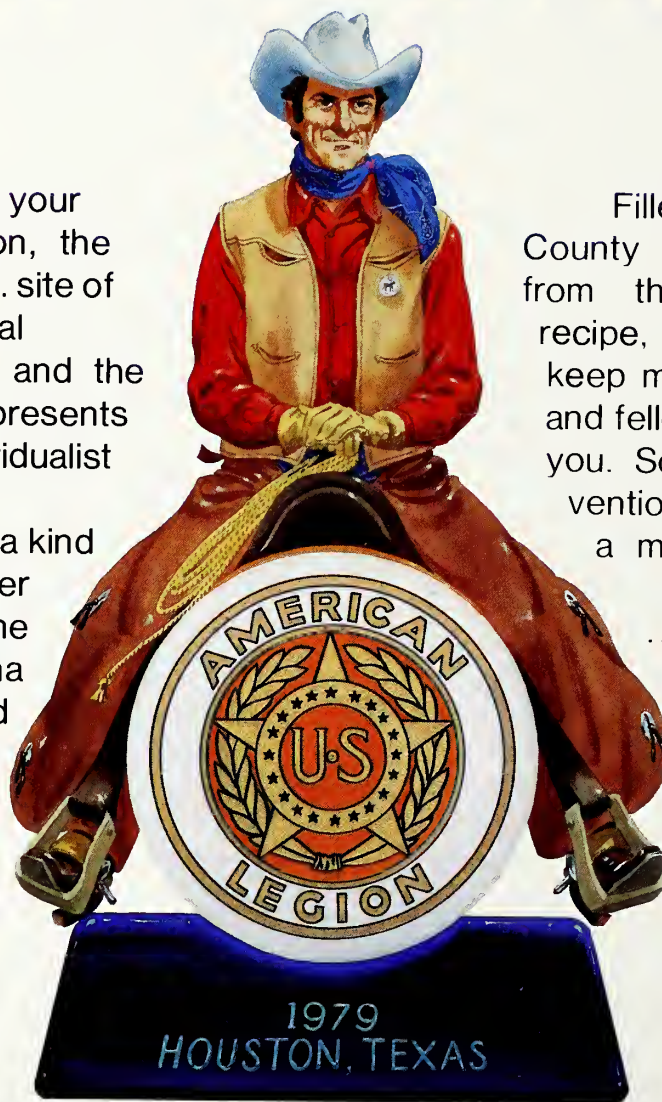
HOUSTON,
TEXAS

AUGUST
17-23, 1979

DAVIESS COUNTY[®] Welcomes The American Legion

We salute your great organization, the State of Texas . . . site of your 61st annual convention . . . and the Cowboy who represents the state's individualist spirit.

This one of a kind collector decanter is made of genuine Hurstbourne China with 24 kt. gold leaf. After the convention, the mold will be destroyed, making it truly a collectors item.



Filled with Daviess County Bourbon made from the original family recipe, this decanter will keep memories of friends and fellowship always with you. So enjoy your convention and take home a memory of Daviess County Bourbon . . . Kentucky's finest.

Collectors Series • Limited Edition

Daviess County Bourbon

Kentucky Straight Bourbon Whiskey. 80 proof; a product of Daviess County Distilling Co. Owensboro, Kentucky



**FOR GOD AND COUNTRY
WE ASSOCIATE OURSELVES TOGETHER
FOR THE FOLLOWING PURPOSES**

*To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to
maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism;
to preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in the Great Wars; to
inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation;
to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; to make right the
master of might; to promote peace and good will on earth; to safeguard
and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and
democracy; to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship
by our devotion to mutual
helpfulness.*

61st NATIONAL CONVENTION

Aug. 17-23, 1979 • Houston, Texas



THE AMERICAN LEGION
61st
National Convention



SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
8th National Convention



AMERICAN LEGION
AUXILIARY
59th
National Convention

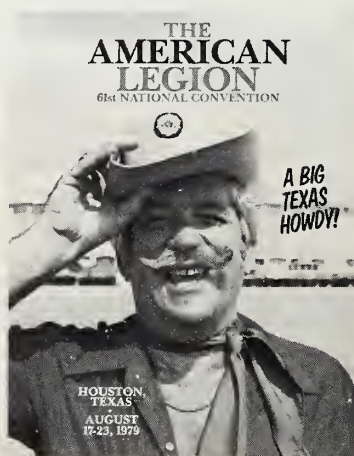


LA BOUTIQUE
DES HUIT CHAPEAUX
ET QUARANTE FEMMES
58th
Marche Nationale

The American Legion 1979 Houston Convention Program

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ABOUT THE COVER: Mr. Bill Stevenson, Artist/Designer, of Houston, Texas designed and produced the "Typical Texas" cover for the 61st National Convention Souvenir Program. The cover, even in its simplicity, tells a story — the story of True Texas Hospitality, friendliness and, yes, its bigness. Backing all this up is the Fabulous Astrodome. A story in itself. In fact, many stories. In other pages throughout this program you will find items regarding Houston and the sights that visitors will want to see and enjoy. You can watch the ice skaters in the Galleria or climb aboard the U.S.S. Texas moored on the Ship Channel and do lots in between. So, enjoy your stay in Houston. This is the second National Convention to be held in Houston. The city has changed in the past eight years and you will want to see for yourself how Houston hands out its Big Texas Howdy to one and all.

National Commander's Message of Welcome to Delegates and Guests

61st Annual National Convention

Welcome to Houston and to the 61st Annual National Convention of The American Legion, our second convention in the 1970's to this great southwest metropolis.

I look forward to seeing all of you again as this very busy year, during which I have been privileged to serve as your National Commander, draws to a close. I also take this opportunity to thank all of you for the wonderful hospitality and kindness to me during my visits with you in your home departments. I will treasure the memories of each and every one of those visits for many years to come.

With a positive attitude we have accomplished many objectives and met many goals this year, in continuing the work of The American Legion as the greatest veterans organization in the world. I am proud of the progress that has been made, and appreciate the cooperation given by the Legionnaires of this great nation.

At this point, I believe I can say with some degree of certainty that we will show a membership increase nationally by the time the books are closed on this calendar year — perhaps not as large as I had hoped for, but a positive sign that we are moving forward with anticipation of greater increases in the 80's.

I believe we have achieved better communication throughout the organization during this past year, an accomplishment that will enable The American Legion to do a better job for both the organization and for our country in the years to come.

For a first year project, I am delighted with American Legion and Auxiliary participation in and support of the Special Olympics for retarded and handicapped persons. I hope this program will continue to expand in participation and effectiveness. We are helping others, providing a service we are well-equipped to provide, and I'm sure The American Legion and Auxiliary participants feel more than amply rewarded for their efforts.

We continue to fight the battle of veterans benefits, to beat back any renewed effort to water down veterans preference and maintain the integrity of the Veterans Administration hospital-medical system as a service for veterans only. We also continue our total support for an adequate system of National Defense, and support defense budget increases which we believe to be absolutely essential.

My thanks to each of you for the outstanding support you have given to me and to The American Legion this year. Most certainly, you have helped to make my year of service a memorable one.



JOHN M. "JACK" CAREY

I am confident that this 1979 National Convention will be both productive and meaningful in the actions it takes. We have completed six decades of service to God and country, and I believe we have compiled a record of service that is unparalleled by any patriotic service organization in the world. We look to our past with pride, and we look to our future with great anticipation and great expectations that we will serve as effectively in the years ahead as we have in the years gone by.

WHERE TO REGISTER

OBTAIN INFORMATION

BUY CONTEST TICKETS

Five locations will be maintained in the Houston area for the convenience of convention attendees. You may register for the convention (\$5.00 per adult), secure answers to your convention questions and buy tickets for the Drum and Bugle Corps Preliminary Contest.

Booth locations will be in the —

SHERATON HOUSTON HOTEL
SAVOY HOUSTON HOTEL
ASTROVILLAGE HOTEL
SHAMROCK HILTON HOTEL
FOYER — SAM HOUSTON COLISEUM —
(Registration and Information only
during Sessions, August 21, 22, 23)

Booths with the exception of the one in the Foyer of the Sam Houston Coliseum will operate from 1:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M., on Thursday, August 16 and daily thereafter from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. until taken out of service.

The Drum and Bugle Corps Preliminary Contest will be held at Delmar Stadium on Sunday, August 19 commencing at 10:30 A.M. Drum & Bugle Corps Preliminary Contest tickets are priced at \$3.00 each.

All persons (except those under age 12) are reminded that the official convention badge or other approved credentials are required to gain entry into the General Convention Sessions scheduled to take place August 21, 22 and 23 in the Sam Houston Coliseum.



"WE DARE TO CARE"



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 31, 1979

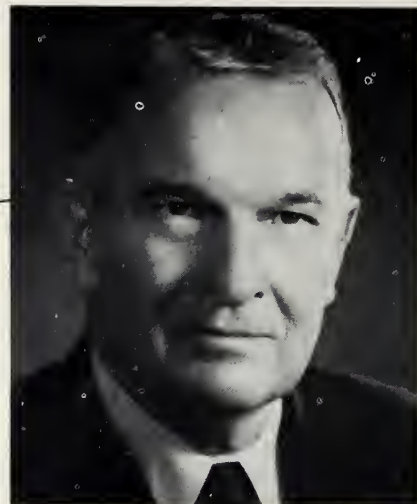
It is a pleasure for me to extend greetings and best wishes as you meet for the Sixty-First Annual National Convention of the American Legion.

I commend you on the many successful activities you have undertaken through the years in pursuit of reaching the great goals for which your organization was founded -- national security, veterans rehabilitation, patriotism and child welfare.

May this Convention be a time of rededication to those high purposes by the 2.7 million Legionnaires, a time of seeking new ways to help recent veterans return to the mainstream of American life and to ease the burdens of older veterans whose health has broken. You have not forgotten the sacrifices of your buddies or the needs of veterans and their families.

I hope that your Convention will be productive and enjoyable and that the year ahead will be a good one for each of you.

Jimmy Carter



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
STATE CAPITOL
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711

WILLIAM P. CLEMENTS, JR.
GOVERNOR

April 10, 1979

Welcome to Texas and to the City of Houston!

We are pleased that you have chosen Houston as the site for your Sixty-first Annual National Convention of The American Legion.

To the visitors to our State, I extend a special welcome. I am confident that you will enjoy the warm hospitality extended by our fine Texas citizens and that your stay will be an enjoyable one. I know that you will find much to interest you in Houston but do hope that you will have the opportunity to visit other parts of our State while you are here.

As Governor of Texas, it is my pleasure to congratulate the members of The American Legion for their participation in and sponsorship of so many, many worthwhile activities. I know that each of you must derive a deep sense of personal satisfaction from the fine service you are rendering your local community, your state and to our Nation.

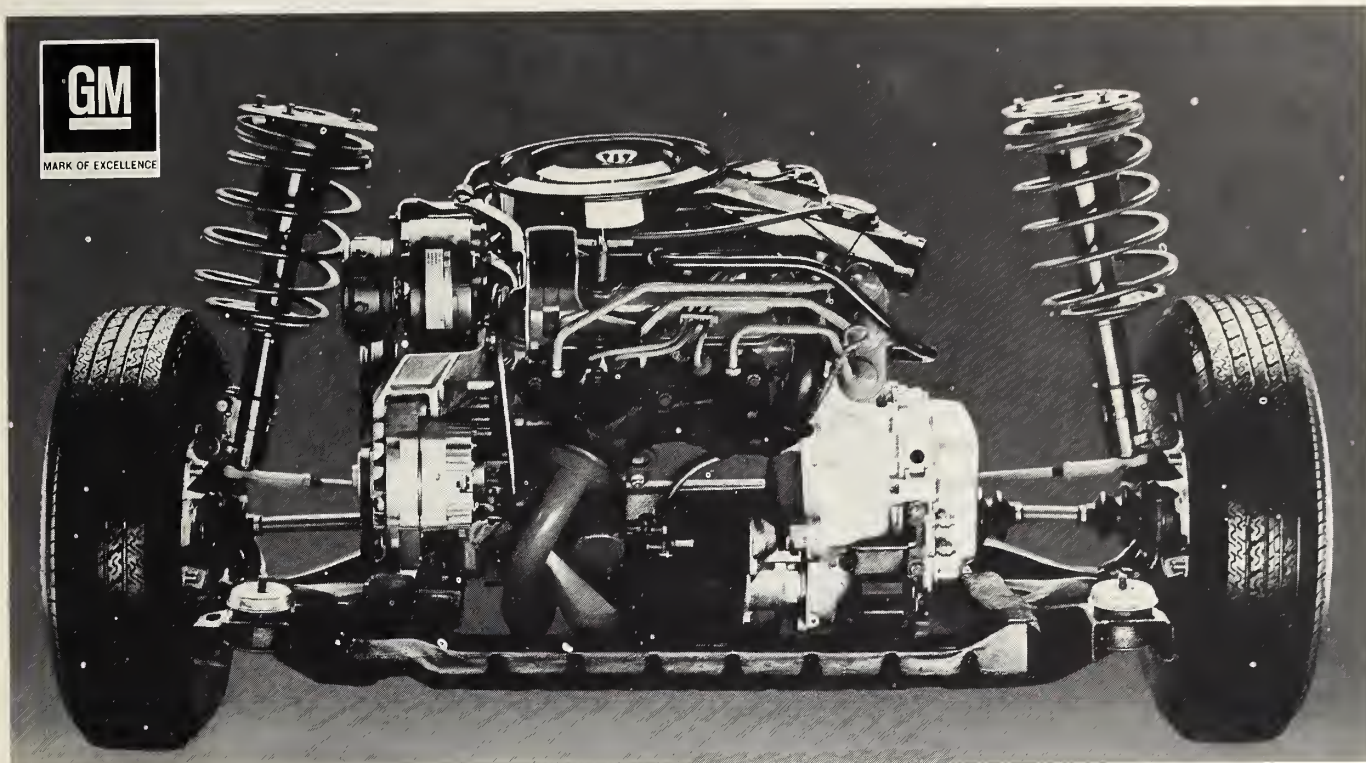
Greetings and sincere best wishes for a pleasant and a productive convention.

Sincerely,

W.P. Clements, Jr.
William P. Clements, Jr.

WPC:mnc

GM's New Front-Wheel-Drive Cars



With a host of standard features including transverse-mounted engine, MacPherson Strut suspension, rack-and-pinion steering, front disc brakes, radial tires and more.

The above photograph contains a remarkable story. It is the heart of the new front-wheel-drive Chevrolet Citation, Pontiac Phoenix, Oldsmobile Omega and Buick Skylark. And it has a number of features that are standard equipment.

Transverse-mounted engine.

Because the engine sits sideways, we can reduce overall length, yet design a car with plenty of room for passengers and luggage. The one you see here is the available V-6, a 4-cylinder engine is standard. (These GM-built engines are produced by various divisions. See your dealer for details.)

MacPherson Strut front suspension.

Helps us design a roomier passenger compartment.

Rack-and-pinion steering. Offers quick, easy response.

Front disc brakes. A new low-drag design with audible wear indicators.

Radial tires. A new design with a special rubber compound to lower rolling resistance even more than "conventional" radials.

Delco Freedom® battery.

Maintenance-free, never needs water.

Maintenance-free wheel bearings.

Completely sealed bearing assemblies are preset for precise clearance and lubed for life.

And more. The aforementioned features are just some of the standard items you get on these exciting new front-wheel-drive cars. You also get others like self-adjusting brakes, carpeted passenger compartment, Body by Fisher construction and many more.

Take a test drive. If you've never driven a car with front-wheel drive before, we're convinced our front-runners for the '80s offer you a great, new and rewarding experience.

If you have driven front-wheel-drive cars before, well—these are about to bring something brand-new to the ball game.

GM's *Look into buying or leasing at your GM dealers today.*
Front-Runners for the '80s.

Chevrolet Citation, Pontiac Phoenix, Oldsmobile Omega, Buick Skylark.

OFFICE OF
DEPARTMENT COMMANDER



THE AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS
P. O. BOX 789
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78767



To the Members of The American Legion
and American Legion Auxiliary

Howdy! Welcome to Texas and the bustling city of Houston! It is a privilege and honor to welcome each and every one of you and your families to the great State of Texas and the 61st National Convention.

We are extremely proud and happy to have you with us, especially since you have chosen Texas to host another National Convention within eight years.

Texas and Houston have a proud past, an exciting future and a strong people of many diverse backgrounds who cherish both.

Today, we are actively translating our great heritage into a promising future through positive community endeavors and progressive Legion support.

To the traveler, Texas presents a fascinating panorama. Texan and visitor alike will find scenery and attractions for everyone of all ages.

Across the great expanse of Texas can be found the many moods which reflect our State: rugged mountains and sparkling seashores... vast plains and majestic forests... prosperous shops of artistic craftsmen and giant industrial complexes. Here one will see more diverse wonders of nature and of man than are found in any other state in our nation.

You are invited to enjoy the friendliness and hospitality that exemplifies the people of Texas. If we can be of service, please ask any Legionnaire wearing a Texas Cap, and the help will immediately be available to you. We will do our best to help make this visit not only productive, but a memorable one.

Pardner, we welcome you to Texas.

Yours in Legion Service,

George H. Skelly
GEORGE H. SKELLY
Department Commander

Making every day the 4th of July.

We salute The American Legion for
its year-round efforts to promote patriotism and an
appreciation of the price of freedom. The
American Legion's many local and national activities
play a key role in preserving Americanism.
Occidental Life is pleased to have provided
group life insurance protection for
The American Legion for the past 20 years.



Occidental Life Insurance Company of California

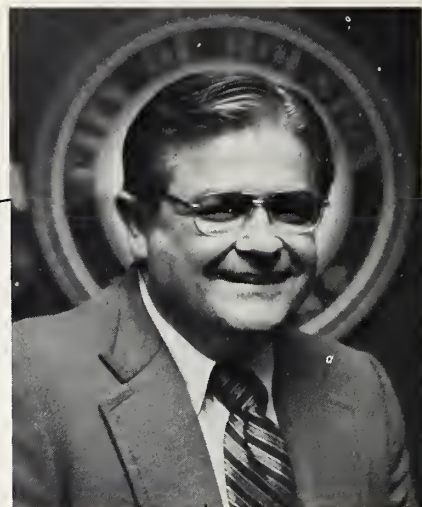
Occidental Life Insurance Company of California—Underwriters of The American Legion Life Insurance Plan



JIM McCONN
MAYOR

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF HOUSTON
TEXAS

April 20, 1979



To the Delegates, Members and Guests
61st Annual National Convention
The American Legion

Greetings:

I am pleased to acknowledge your choice of Houston as the site for the 61st Annual National Convention of the American Legion.

I cannot think of a more appropriate place in which to hold a convention of such renown than a city of equal distinction both nationally and internationally. The city of Houston is now the fifth largest city in America and the fastest growing major city today. Oil, being our largest single industry and in greater demand than ever, guarantees a place for the city of Houston among top cities both domestically and worldwide. Such international esteem has given Houston occasion to develop a cultural charisma yet to be matched in the Southwest. Ours is, indeed, a most prosperous and diversified city.

Needless to say, Houston is a choice location for the Convention and, on behalf of the entire city of Houston, I welcome you and hope that you enjoy your stay.

Best wishes now and always.

Sincerely,

Jim McConn
Jim McConn, Mayor
City of Houston

Best Wishes to
The American Legion

from

The Leterman-Gortz Corporation

We are proud to be
Consultants to
National Headquarters
and
the Departments
for The American Legion
Employee Insurance Benefit
Program

**Underwritten by
Life Insurance Company of North America**

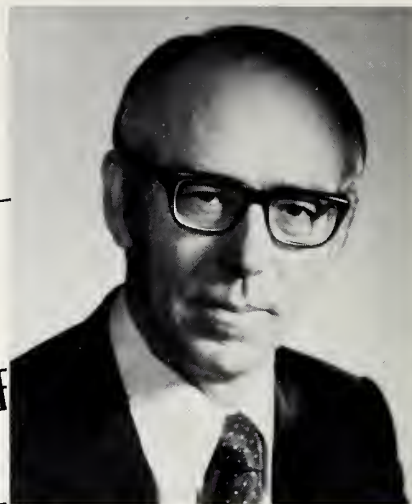


HARRY CALDWELL
CHIEF OF POLICE

CITY of HOUSTON
JIM McCONN, MAYOR
POLICE DEPARTMENT

61 RIESNER STREET
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77002

TELEPHONE (713) 222-3011 • RADIO KKD 490 • TELETYPE 1 713 57



May 2, 1979

To The American Legion:

Greetings, and welcome to Houston.

We know that you could have selected any city in the United States in which to hold your convention. You do us great honor by affording Houston an opportunity to thank you for your presence.

The American Legion represents those values that have made ours the greatest Country in the world. We are proud to have you amongst us.

On behalf of the many veterans who now continue to serve their country as Houston Police Officers, and on behalf of all the officers of our Department, we welcome you to Houston!

Very truly yours,

Harry Caldwell
H.D. Caldwell
Chief of Police

HDC:eps

1979 REGIONAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCES

*The American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary
invite you to attend
a 1979 Leadership Conference
in your region*

*to
learn about and participate in
our programs.*

*Conferences will cover
Americanism, Children and Youth,
Legislative, Membership, Public Relations and
Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation.*



Region #8

September 7-8-9, 1979
Portland Hilton Hotel
Portland, Oregon
Departments:
Alaska
Idaho
Montana
Oregon
Washington
Wyoming

Region #1

September 14-15-16, 1979
Sheraton Wayfarer
Manchester, New Hampshire
Departments:
Connecticut
Maine
Massachusetts
New Hampshire
Rhode Island
Vermont

Region #7

September 28-29-30, 1979
Las Vegas Hilton
Las Vegas, Nevada
Departments:
Arizona
California
Colorado
Hawaii
Nevada
New Mexico
Utah

Region #2

October 5-6-7, 1979
Lord Baltimore Hotel
Baltimore, Maryland
Departments:
Delaware
District of Columbia
Maryland
New Jersey
New York
Pennsylvania
Virginia
West Virginia

Region #3

September 7-8-9, 1979
Sheraton Atlanta, Airport
Atlanta, Georgia
Departments:
Florida
Kentucky
Georgia
North Carolina
South Carolina
Tennessee

Region #6

September 14-15-16, 1979
Holiday Inn Downtown
Sioux Falls, South Dakota
Departments:
Kansas
Iowa
Minnesota
Nebraska
North Dakota
South Dakota

Region #5

September 28-29-30, 1979
Sheraton West
Indianapolis, Indiana
Departments:
Indiana
Illinois
Michigan
Missouri
Ohio
Wisconsin

Region #4

October 5-6-7, 1979
Capitol House Hotel
Baton Rouge, Louisiana
Departments:
Alabama
Arkansas
Louisiana
Mississippi
Oklahoma
Texas

*Registration Fee \$5.00 Per Person
For Registration and Information Contact
Department Adjutant or Secretary*

REUNIONS AND DINNERS

NATIONAL COMMANDER'S BANQUET FOR DISTINGUISHED GUESTS

Astro Village Hotel
Ballroom
Tuesday, August 21 — 7:30 P.M.

HISTORIANS LUNCHEON

Hyatt Regency Hotel
Crystal Forest Room
Saturday, August 18 — 12:00 Noon

FODPAL BREAKFAST MEETING

Sheraton Houston Hotel
San Antonio Room
Monday, August 20 — 7:30 A.M.

THE AMERICAN LEGION COLLEGE CLASS OF 1954

Hyatt Regency Hotel
Sandalwood A Room
Breakfast
Monday, August 20 — 7:30 A.M.

PAST COMMANDERS' LUNCHEON

Sheraton Houston Hotel
Statesmen Ballroom
Reception and Luncheon
Tuesday, August 21 —
(Immediately following conclusion
of Opening General Session —
approximately 12:30 P.M.)
Leon Jaworski, Recipient,
of Good Guy Award

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF WORLD WAR NURSES REUNION

Holiday Inn-Downtown
Mariner Conference Center (6th Floor)
Sunday, August 19 — 10:00 A.M.

EIGHT AND FORTY

Shamrock Hilton Hotel
Emerald Ballroom
Installation Dinner
Saturday, August 25 — 7:30 P.M.

FOUNDERS

Hyatt Regency Hotel
Magnolia Room
Meeting
Saturday, August 18 — 2:00 P.M.

TWENTY AND FOUR

Ramada Inn-Astrodome
Meetings — August 15-17
Reception — August 17 — 7:00 P.M.
Banquet — August 17 — 8:00 P.M.

AMERICAN LEGION PRESS ASSOCIATION (ALPA)

Sheraton Houston Hotel
Summit Room
Reception and Dinner
Saturday, August 18 — 7:30 P.M.
Meeting
Florentine Room
Sunday, August 19 — 8:30 A.M.

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY STATES DINNER

Shamrock Hilton Hotel
Grand Ballroom
Wednesday, August 22 — 8:00 P.M.

ANAVICUS

Army, Navy and Air Force Veterans in Canada
Hyatt Regency Hotel
Crystal Forest Room (2nd Floor)
Breakfast Meeting
Sunday, August 19 — 7:30 A.M.

FOUNDERS' & HISTORIANS' LUNCHEON

Hyatt Regency Hotel
Crystal Forest Room
Saturday, August 18 — 12:00 noon



**Sakowitz welcomes
the American Legion.
We invite you to experience
our unique brand
of Texas hospitality...
personalized service and
quality collections
for 77 years.**

SAKOWITZ

Something special in store

**DOWNTOWN POST OAK GULFGATE
TOWN & COUNTRY VILLAGE
SAKOWITZ II AT CHAMPIONS**



Save on Tickets and Enjoy Sensational Summer Shows

Summer fun begins in the all new Lagoon Amphitheatre with the ALL AMERICAN HIGH DIVE TEAM and a PRECISION WATER SKI SHOW (daily)

The encore performance of "A TOUCH OF ELVIS" captures the memory of Elvis like no other show can (daily).

The Fabulous Fifties are recreated with the fast paced TOM SLICK ROCK 'N ROLL REVIEW (daily).

BEATLE FEVER, a multi-media spectacular featuring John, Paul, George, and Ringo look alikes and sound alikes thrill you and fill you with BEATLE FEVER (daily in August).

When the summer sun sets, Magic till Midnight will light up the sky in a "FANTASY OF FIRE", the brightest, most sparkling FIREWORKS show in the Southwest.

... And Electrifying Adventures

The world's #1 Roller coaster THE TEXAS CYCLONE. Fast and breathtaking. The CYCLONE reaches speeds up to 60 m.p.h. with sheer drops plunging into twisting curves.

Flip over GREEZED LIGHTNIN'. Pilot a river boat through the RIVER OF NO RETURN. And, splash down a cool, refreshing waterfall in a hollowed out BAMBOO SHOOT.

... And much more

The kids will enjoy rides and adventure scaled down especially for children in the wonderful world of MARVEL MCFEY. The DANCING DOLPHINS in the Aqua-frolics will delight the entire family. There are games, shops and an infinite variety of taste tempting foods.

YOU WON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THE SUMMER GAS CRISIS WHEN YOU PLAN A FAMILY HOLIDAY TO ASTROWORLD... THE MIDDLE OF FUN.



Welcome Legionnaires to THE LARGEST LIQUOR STORE IN THE FREE WORLD

970,000 Bottles of Booze !

Spec's has The American Legion
Commemorative Decanter
at a very special price.

\$26⁹⁹
5th



SPEC'S

WAREHOUSE



Ten Blocks South of the Hyatt House

2410 Smith

526-8787

NATIONAL CONTESTS AND NATIONAL CONTESTS SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

August 16-20, 1979



Thursday, August 16: Meeting Room, Savoy Houston Hotel

- 9:30 a.m. Executive Section, National Contests Supervisory Committee
- 2:00 p.m. Local Contests Committee and NCSC Executive Section Meeting Inspection of Sites

Friday, August 17: Meeting Room, Savoy Houston Hotel

- 9:30 a.m. Local Contest Committee Meeting with Full NCSC
- 1:30 p.m. MEETING OF REPRESENTATIVES (only one from each unit is required) — Full National Contests Supervisory Meeting
- 1:30 p.m. Junior and Senior Drum and Bugle Corps
- 2:00 p.m. Junior and Senior Bands
- 2:15 p.m. Chorus and Quartet
- 2:30 p.m. Junior and Senior Drill Teams and Firing Squad
- 2:45 p.m. Junior and Senior Color Guard
- 3:30 p.m. Judges' Briefing

Saturday, August 18: CONTESTS

- 8:00 a.m. Junior Drill Team, Delmar Junior Field, 2020 Mangum
- 9:20 a.m. Senior Drill Team, Delmar Junior Field
- 10:20 a.m. Firing Squad, Delmar Junior Field

Sunday, August 19: CONTESTS

- 8:00 a.m. Junior Color Guard, Delmar Fieldhouse, 2020 Mangum
- 9:00 a.m. Senior Color Guard, Delmar Fieldhouse
- * 10:30 a.m. Junior Drum & Bugle Corps Preliminaries, Delmar Stadium
- 10:30 a.m. Senior Band, Ballroom, Astro Village Hotel, 2350 South Loop West
- 10:30 a.m. SAL Color Guard, Delmar Fieldhouse
- 12:30 p.m. Chorus at Ballroom, Astro Village Hotel
- 1:20 p.m. Quartet at Ballroom, Astro Village Hotel
- 7:00 p.m. PARADE

Monday, August 20: Meeting Room, Savoy Houston Hotel

- 9:30 a.m. Official PROTEST HEARINGS — Executive Section, NCSC

*Limited seating is available for this event and tickets may be obtained from the Convention Corporation offices at the Savoy Houston Hotel at \$3.00 each.

**61st ANNUAL NATIONAL CONVENTION
THE AMERICAN LEGION
HOUSTON, TEXAS AUGUST 17-23, 1979**

San Jacinto Is Historic Spot

Veterans attending the 61st Annual American Legion National Convention in Houston August 21-23rd will want to visit the site of the Battle of San Jacinto. One of the most important battles of all time, this one was the real beginning of Houston history. It was here on a prairie just west of the mouth of the San Jacinto River that Sam Houston and Santa Anna of Mexico met in deadly conflict. Houston led a small band of Texans numbering fewer than 800 fierce fighters. Santa Anna led 1,400 troops who were taking a siesta when the Texans attacked.

The battle lasted only 18 minutes on that afternoon of

April 18, 1836. When the smoke cleared, Houston's casualties: two Texans killed and 23 (including Sam Houston) wounded. Santa Anna's: 630 Mexicans killed, 208 wounded, 730 captured.

While you're there, be sure to visit the San Jacinto Inn and enjoy an excellent seafood dinner. Served family style, they just keep bringing it to you until you call a halt. Fresh crab, fish, fried chicken and fluffy homemade biscuits are just part of their delicious menu.

Nearby, the Battleship Texas is moored on the Ship Channel and is open for tours.

UNITED STATES LIFE
Wishes The
AMERICAN LEGION
a memorable
Convention
and a
year of great
accomplishment.

From the underwriter
of your American Legion
Life Insurance Plan
for more than 20 years.

THE UNITED STATES LIFE
Insurance Company In the City of New York
A **US-LIFE** COMPANY



**Display
Your
Colors
with
Pride!**

Don't let worn or faded colors spoil your presentation.

A complete line of new 50-star U.S. and Post colors, outdoor flag sets and accessories are available through Emblem Supply Dept.

PARADE AND INDOOR DISPLAY FLAGS

See page 26
1979 Emblem & Supply Catalog

Annin & Co.



Verona, N.J.

Official Flag Supplier

DIRECTORY OF THE NATIONAL CONVENTION

NATIONAL CONVENTION HEADQUARTERS OFFICE

Market Place Exhibit Hall (Lower Level)
Hyatt Regency Hotel
1200 Louisiana Street
757-1515

CONVENTION CORPORATION HEADQUARTERS

Savoy Houston Hotel
1616 Main Street
757-1779

THE AMERICAN LEGION HEADQUARTERS HOTEL

Hyatt Regency Hotel
1200 Louisiana Street
654-1234

SESSIONS:

Sam Houston Coliseum
810 Bagby

DISTINGUISHED GUEST HEADQUARTERS

Hyatt Regency Hotel
1200 Louisiana Street
654-1234

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS STAFF

Holiday Inn-Downtown
801 Calhoun at Travis
659-2222

THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY HEADQUARTERS HOTEL

Shamrock Hilton Hotel
6900 Main at Holcombe
668-9211

SESSIONS:

Grand Ballroom
Shamrock Hilton Hotel

EIGHT & FORTY HEADQUARTERS HOTEL

Shamrock Hilton Hotel
6900 Main at Holcombe
668-9211

SESSIONS:

Emerald Ballroom
Shamrock Hilton Hotel

NATIONAL CONVENTION PHOTOGRAPHER

Central Studios
Savoy Houston Hotel
1616 Main Street
757-1779

OFFICIAL DELEGATION HOTELS

ALABAMA:

Savoy Houston Hotel
1616 Main Street
659-1141
(Lawson M. Lynn — Adjutant)

ALASKA:

Holiday Inn-Downtown
801 Calhoun at Travis
659-2222
(William C. Kelm — Adjutant)

ARIZONA:

Shamrock Hilton Hotel
6900 Main at Holcombe
668-9211
(Bryant B. Barron — Adjutant)

ARKANSAS:

Holiday Inn-Astro Village
2350 So. Loop West
748-1050
(Arthur R. Cross, Jr. — Adjutant)

CALIFORNIA:

Lamar Hotel
1024 Main Street
658-9041
(Donald J. Michalske — Adjutant)

CANADA:

Sheraton Houston Hotel
777 Polk Street
651-9041
(Arthur J. Davignon — Adjutant)

COLORADO:

Marriott-Braeswood Hotel
2100 Braeswood Boulevard
797-9000
(E. Dean Hunter — Adjutant)

CONNECTICUT:

Holiday Inn-Central
4640 South Main
526-2811
(Hugh C. Graham — Adjutant)

DELAWARE:

Shamrock Hilton Hotel
6900 Main at Holcombe
668-9211
(Garland D. Bloodsworth — Adjutant)

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA:

The Whitehall Hotel
1700 Smith Street
659-5000
(H. Victor Conwell — Adjutant)

FLORIDA:

Holiday Inn-Downtown
801 Calhoun at Travis
659-2222
(Dyke Shannon — Adjutant)

FRANCE:

Sheraton Houston Hotel
777 Polk Street
651-9041
(Yott E. Whitmore — Adjutant)

GEORGIA:

Marriott Braeswood Hotel
2100 Braeswood Boulevard
797-9000
(George E. Osborne — Adjutant)

HAWAII:

Holiday Inn-Downtown
801 Calhoun at Travis
659-2222
(Henry S.P. Wong — Adjutant)

IDAHO:

Holiday Inn Memorial Plaza
2100 Memorial Drive
869-8261
(Marion P. Johnson — Adjutant)

ILLINOIS:

Astro Village Hotel
2350 South Loop West
748-3221
(Vincent A. Sanzotta — Adjutant)

INDIANA:

Ramada Inn-Civic Center
101 Main Street
225-1781
(George Wilkerson — Adjutant)

IOWA:

Sheraton Houston Hotel
777 Polk Street
651-9041
(John B. Brokens — Adjutant)

ITALY:

Sheraton Houston Hotel
777 Polk Street
651-9041
(John J. Fornacca — Adjutant)

KANSAS:

Holiday Inn-Astro Village
2350 So. Loop West
748-1050
(Floyd J. Rogers — Adjutant)

KENTUCKY:

Stouffers Greenway Plaza Hotel
6 Greenway Plaza
629-1200
(Ray A. Beyer — Adjutant)

LOUISIANA:

Sheraton Houston Hotel
777 Polk Street
651-9041
(James E. Tripp — Adjutant)

MAINE:

Holiday Inn-Downtown
801 Calhoun at Travis
659-2222
(Daniel Lambert — Adjutant)

MARYLAND:

Holiday Inn-Downtown
801 Calhoun at Travis
659-2222
(Daniel H. Burkhardt — Adjutant)

MASSACHUSETTS:

The Whitehall Hotel
1700 Smith Street
659-5000
(John P. Swift — Adjutant)

MEXICO:

Sheraton Houston Hotel
777 Polk Street
651-9041
(Harry Wright — Adjutant)

MICHIGAN:

Executive Red Carpet Inn
4020 Southwest Freeway
623-4700
(F. Gerrit Veldman — Adjutant)



Headquarters hotel for the 1979 American Legion National Convention will be the splendid new Hyatt Regency Hotel, which will house the National Headquarters offices for Convention. The Hyatt Regency also will house the National Commander and other National Officers. Many commission and committee meetings will also be conducted at the Hyatt Regency, which also will accommodate the Distinguished Guest Suite and most of the convention's distinguished guests.

MINNESOTA:

Shamrock Hilton Hotel
6900 Main at Holcombe
668-9211
(Charles Ferguson — Adjutant)

MISSISSIPPI:

Best Western Center City Motor Inn
1015 Texas Avenue
224-4511
(David Blakeney — Adjutant)

MISSOURI:

The Whitehall Hotel
1700 Smith Street
659-5000
(Lloyd E. "Ed" Johnson — Adjutant)

MONTANA:

Marriott Braeswood Hotel
2100 Braeswood Boulevard
797-9000
(Hugh "Tony" Cumming — Adjutant)

NEBRASKA:

Tides II Motor Inn
6700 So. Main Street
522-2811
(Duane Bokemper — Adjutant)

NEVADA:

Holiday Inn-Downtown
801 Calhoun at Travis
659-2222
(Chester L. Perkins — Adjutant)

NEW HAMPSHIRE:

Holiday Inn-Downtown
801 Calhoun at Travis
659-2222
(Hubert S. O'Neil — Adjutant)

NEW JERSEY:

Shamrock Hilton Hotel
6900 Main at Holcombe
668-9211
(Robert W. Field — Adjutant)

NEW MEXICO:

Marriott Braeswood Hotel
2100 Braeswood Boulevard
797-9000
(Hugo Flores — Adjutant)

NEW YORK:

Hyatt Regency Hotel
1200 Louisiana Street
651-1234
(Leonard E. Baxter — Adjutant)

NORTH CAROLINA:

Shamrock Hilton Hotel
6900 Main at Holcombe
668-9211
(James L. Adcox — Adjutant)

NORTH DAKOTA:

Sheraton Houston Hotel
777 Polk Street
651-9041
(Vernon Useldinger — Adjutant)

OHIO:

Astro Village Hotel
2350 South Loop West
748-3221
(J. P. "Pat" Hone — Adjutant)

OKLAHOMA:

Holiday Inn-Memorial Plaza
2100 Memorial Drive
869-8261
(C. J. Wright, Jr. — Adjutant)

OREGON:

Shamrock Hilton Hotel
6900 Main at Holcombe
668-9211
(Ron Dreeszen — Adjutant)

PANAMA:

Sheraton Houston Hotel
777 Polk Street
651-9041
(William Uhde — Adjutant)

PENNSYLVANIA:

Hyatt Regency Hotel
1200 Louisiana Street
654-1234
(Edward T. Hoak — Adjutant)

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES:

Sheraton Houston Hotel
777 Polk Street
651-9041
(Antonio F. Garcia — Adjutant)

PUERTO RICO:

Sheraton Houston Hotel
777 Polk Street
651-9041
(Juan Alicea — Adjutant)

RHODE ISLAND:

(Louis R. J. Malo — Adjutant)

SOUTH CAROLINA:

Hyatt Regency Hotel
1200 Louisiana Street
654-1234
(James A. Hamilton — Adjutant)

SOUTH DAKOTA:

Sheraton Houston Hotel
777 Polk Street
651-9041
(Maynard L. Hemp — Adjutant)

TENNESSEE:

Savoy Houston Hotel
1616 Main Street
659-1141
(Barney W. Greene — Adjutant)

TEXAS:

Allen Park Inn
2121 Allen Parkway
521-9321
(W. H. McGregor — Adjutant)

UTAH:

Marriott Braeswood Hotel
2100 Braeswood Boulevard
797-9000
(Dean C. Hall — Adjutant)

VERMONT:

Shamrock Hilton Hotel
6900 Main at Holcombe
668-9211
(Ray Greenwood — Adjutant)

VIRGINIA:

Sheraton Houston Hotel
777 Polk Street
651-9041
(Philip D. Grimm — Adjutant)

WASHINGTON:

Holiday Inn-Central
4640 So. Main Street
526-2811
(W. H. "Bill" Dunn — Adjutant)

WEST VIRGINIA:

Lamar Hotel
1024 Main Street
658-8511
(Tommy E. Jones — Adjutant)

WISCONSIN:

Holiday Inn-Memorial Plaza
2100 Memorial Drive
869-8261
(Robert G. Wilke — Adjutant)

WYOMING:

Marriott Braeswood Hotel
2100 Braeswood Boulevard
797-9000
(Eugene Hirsch — Adjutant)



Lawrence E. Hoffman
Chairman



Eric H. Smith
Vice Chairman



Richard H. Klinge



Harry K. Stinger



Edward Sharkey



John A. Guirovich, Jr.



Glenn R. Green



Edwin J. Schuitema



William C. Sweeney



H. Gordon Burleigh

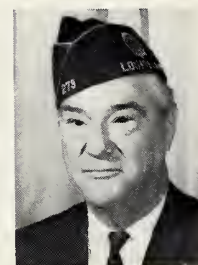


Fred M. Ingellis



Dr. Stacy Garner

The 1978 National Convention Commission



Albert V. LaBiche
Ex-officio



Daniel R. O'Sullivan
Consultant



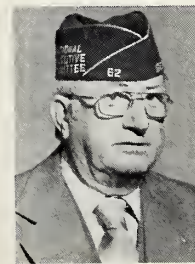
Peter Nedzweckas
Consultant



Wendell G. Williams
Consultant



Cleo T. Martin
National Commander's Representative



W. D. Harrell
*Chairman
Liaison Committee*



Kenneth O. Todd
Liaison



Dr. Almo J. Sebastianelli
Liaison



Donald R. Schroedl
Liaison



Libert J. Pakele, Jr.
Liaison



George E. Osborne
Advisory



Tommy E. Jones
Advisory



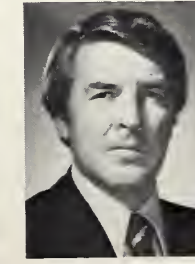
William H. Dunn
Advisory



Maurice E. Druhl
*Chairman
Distinguished Guests*



Bruce L. Plumb
*Chairman
Contest Supervisory*



William H. Miller
National Convention Director

THE AMERICAN LEGION 61ST NATIONAL CONVENTION

MEETING ROOM ASSIGNMENTS

STANDING COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES

Americanism Commission:

Aug. 17 and 18, 9:30 a.m.
Statesman "A" Ballroom, 2nd Floor,
Sheraton-Houston Hotel
Chairman: Daniel J. O'Connor
Forest Hills, New York

Americanism Screening Committee:

Aug. 16, 9:30 a.m.
Chairman's Suite
Hyatt-Regency Hotel

Commission on Children & Youth:

Aug. 17 and 18, 9:30 a.m.
Statesman "B" Ballroom, 2nd Floor,
Sheraton-Houston Hotel
Chairman: Earl D. Franklin, Jr.
Sterling, Colorado

Constitution and By-Laws Committee:

Aug. 17 and 18, 9:30 a.m.
National Judge Advocate's Office, Nat'l. Hdqtrs.
Market Place Exhibit Hall, Lower Level,
Hyatt-Regency Hotel
Chairman: Francis L. Giordano
Brooklyn, New York

Contests Supervisory Committee Headquarters:

Aug. 13-23
Savoy-Houston Hotel

Contests Committee Meetings:

Aug. 16, (All meetings to be conducted at the
Savoy-Houston Hotel)
9:30 a.m. NCSC Executive Section
2:00 p.m. Local
NCSC Inspection of Sites
Aug. 17, 9:30 a.m. NCSC Local Contest Committee
1:30 p.m. NCSC — Full Committee Meeting
3:00 p.m. Judges' Briefing
Meeting Rooms
Aug. 21, 9:30 a.m. NCSC Executive Section
Meeting Room
Chairman: Bruce L. Plumb
Portland, Oregon

Convention Commission:

Aug. 17-23, inclusive, 9:30 a.m.
Board Room, 2nd Floor,
Sheraton-Houston Hotel
Chairman: Lawrence E. Hoffman
Miami Beach, Florida

Distinguished Guest Committee:

Aug. 17, 9:30 a.m.
Dogwood "B", 3rd Floor,
Hyatt-Regency Hotel
Chairman: Maurice E. Druhl
Portland, Oregon

Economic Commission:

Aug. 17 and 18, 9:30 a.m.
Foyer Room, 2nd Floor,
Sheraton-Houston Hotel
Chairman: Al Keller, Jr.
Kankakee, Illinois

Economic Screening Committee:

Aug. 16, 9:30 a.m.
Chairman's Suite
Hyatt-Regency Hotel

Emblem Committee:

Aug. 17 and 18, 9:30 a.m.
Ponderosa Road, 4th Floor,
Hyatt-Regency Hotel
Chairman: Clayton C. Schlick
Osage, Iowa

Finance Commission:

Aug. 17-23, inclusive, 9:30 a.m.
Magnolia Room, 3rd Floor,
Hyatt-Regency Hotel
Chairman: Churchill T. Williams
Oelwein, Iowa

American Legion Life Insurance and Trust Committee:

Aug. 17 and 18, 9:30 a.m.
Pecan Room, 4th Floor,
Hyatt-Regency Hotel
Chairman: Harold E. Heinly
Santa Ana, California

Foreign Relations Commission:

Aug. 17 and 18, 9:30 a.m.
Arboretum West & Central, 2nd Floor,
Hyatt-Regency Hotel
Chairman: Joseph H. Ellinwood
Athol, Massachusetts

Five (5) Subcommittee rooms,
Arboretum Rooms, 2nd Floor,
Hyatt-Regency Hotel, and
Ebony Room, Raintree Room, Cedar Room, and
Holly Room, all 4th Floor,
Hyatt-Regency Hotel

Internal Affairs Commission:

Aug. 17 and 18, 9:30 a.m.
Timberline, 28th Floor,
Sheraton-Houston Hotel
Chairman: James P. Dean
Corinth, Mississippi

Legislative Commission:

August 17 and 18, 9:30 a.m.
Arboretum East, 2nd Floor,
Hyatt-Regency Hotel
Chairman: Albert D. Brown
San Antonio, Texas

Membership and Post Activities Committee:

Aug. 17 and 18, 9:30 a.m.
Ridge & Mesa, 28th Floor,
Sheraton-Houston Hotel
Chairman: J. Ray Edmundson, Jr.
Colonial Heights, Virginia

National Security Commission

Aug. 18, 9:30 a.m.
West Ballroom, 3rd Level,
Hyatt-Regency Hotel
Vice Chairman: Donald C. Huntley
Saginaw, Michigan

Public Relations Commission:

Aug. 17 and 18, 9:30 a.m.
Cottonwood (A), 3rd Floor,
Hyatt-Regency Hotel
Chairman: William M. Detweiler
New Orleans, Louisiana

Resolutions Assignment Committee:

Aug. 16-20, inclusive, 9:30 a.m.
Live Oak Room, 4th Floor,
Hyatt-Regency Hotel
Chairman: Alex M. Geiger
Gaston, South Carolina

The American Legion Magazine Commission:

Aug. 17 and 18, 9:30 a.m.
Sandalwood A & B, Hyatt-Regency Hotel
Chairman: Milford A. Forrester
Greenville, South Carolina

Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Commission:

Aug. 17 and 18, 9:30 a.m.
President's Room, 2nd Floor,
White Hall Hotel
Chairman: William F. Lenker
Sioux Falls, South Dakota

Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Screening Committee:

Aug. 16-19, inclusive, 9:30 a.m.
Chairman's Suite
Hyatt-Regency Hotel

The Select Committee on Special Problems of the VA & R Programs:

Aug. 16 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Pecan Room, 4th Floor
Hyatt-Regency Hotel

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Aug. 20, (Monday) 4:00 p.m.

Ballroom East, 3rd Floor, Hyatt-Regency Hotel
Chairman: National Commander John M. Carey
Grand Blanc, Michigan

S.A.L. MEETINGS**8th Annual Sons of
The American Legion Convention**

(Executive Committee)
Aug. 17, 3:00 p.m.
Concourse D, 2nd Floor,
Whitehall Hotel

**8th Annual Sons of
The American Legion Convention**

(General Sessions)
Aug. 18 and 19, 9:00 a.m.
State Ballroom, 2nd Floor,
Whitehall Hotel

MEETINGS OF CONVENTION COMMITTEES

The following Convention Committees will be composed of one delegate from each department. Initial meetings of Convention Committees will be at the time and place as shown below. Subsequent meetings will be at the call of the chairman.

(Meetings of Convention Committees normally will be closed to all except committee members.)

Americanism

Aug. 19 and 20, 10:00 a.m.
Statesman "A" Ballroom, 2nd Floor,
Sheraton-Houston Hotel
(All Subcommittees will meet in
Statesman "A" Ballroom, 2nd Floor,
Sheraton-Houston Hotel)
(Baseball and Recreation Subcommittee)
Aug. 19, 10:30 a.m.
(Education and Scholarship Subcommittee)
Aug. 19, 10:30 a.m.
(Immigration and Naturalization Subcommittee)
Aug. 19, 10:30 a.m.
(Counter-Subversive Activities Subcommittee)
Aug. 19, 10:30 a.m.
(Boys State-Boys Nation, Youth Activities
and Community Services Subcommittees)
Aug. 19, 10:30 a.m.

Children & Youth

Aug. 19 and 20, 10:00 a.m.
Statesman "B" Ballroom, 2nd Floor
Sheraton-Houston Hotel

Constitutional Amendments

Aug. 19 and 20, 10:00 a.m.
Abilene Room, 3rd Floor, Sheraton-Houston Hotel

Credentials and Internal Affairs

(Credentials and Other Internal Matters)
Aug. 19 and 20, 10:00 a.m.
Timberline, 28th Floor
Sheraton-Houston Hotel
(Membership)
Aug. 19, 10:00 a.m.
Ridge & Mesa Room, 28th Floor
Sheraton-Houston Hotel
Aug. 20, 9:00 a.m./noon
Ridge & Mesa Room, 28th Floor
Sheraton-Houston Hotel

Economic

(Employment and Veterans Preference)
Aug. 19 and 20, 10:00 a.m.
Statesman "C" Ballroom, 2nd Floor
Sheraton-Houston Hotel
(Other Economic Matters)
Aug. 19 and 20, 10:00 a.m.
Forum Room (B), 2nd Floor
Sheraton-Houston Hotel

Finance

Aug. 19, 10:00 a.m.
Sandalwood Room, 4th Floor
Hyatt-Regency Hotel

Foreign Relations

Aug. 19 and 20, 10:00 a.m.
Arboretum West & Central, 2nd Floor
Hyatt-Regency Hotel
Aug. 19 only, Five (5) Subcommittee Rooms
Arboretum West & Central, 2nd Floor
Hyatt-Regency Hotel
Ebony, Raintree, Cedar and Holly, all on 4th Floor
Hyatt-Regency Hotel

Legislation and Rules

Aug. 19, 10:00 a.m.
Arboretum East, 2nd Floor, Hyatt-Regency Hotel

National Security Committee Joint Meeting

(Aerospace, Defense Civil Preparedness,
Merchant Marine, Military Affairs, Naval Affairs)
Aug. 19, 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
West Ballroom, 3rd Floor, Hyatt-Regency Hotel
(Aerospace)
Aug. 19, 11:00 a.m. and Aug. 20, 10:00 a.m.
Cottonwood Room A, 3rd Floor, Hyatt-Regency Hotel
(Defense Civil Preparedness)
Aug. 19, 11:00 a.m. and Aug. 20, 10:00 a.m.
Mesquite Room, 3rd Floor, Hyatt-Regency Hotel
(Merchant Marine)
Aug. 19, 11:00 a.m. and Aug. 20, 10:00 a.m.
Redbud Room, 3rd Floor, Hyatt-Regency Hotel
(Military Affairs)
Aug. 19, 11:00 a.m. and Aug. 20, 10:00 a.m.
West Ballroom, 3rd Floor, Hyatt-Regency Hotel
(Naval Affairs)
Aug. 19, 11:00 a.m. and Aug. 20, 10:00 a.m.
Dogwood Room (B), 3rd Floor, Hyatt-Regency Hotel
(Law and Order)
Aug. 19, 11:00 a.m. and Aug. 20, 10:00 a.m.
Magnolia Room, 3rd Floor, Hyatt-Regency Hotel

National Security Committees Joint Meeting

Aug. 21, 9:00 a.m. to noon
West Ballroom, 3rd Floor, Hyatt-Regency Hotel

Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation

(Claims and Rating)
Aug. 19 and 20, 10:00 a.m.
Presidents Room, 2nd Floor,
Whitehall Hotel
(Hospitals and Medical Services)
Aug. 19 and 20, 10:00 a.m.
Jackson Suite, 2nd Floor,
Whitehall Hotel

CONGRATULATIONS, '79 "We Dare To Care" Commanders

DISTRICT

These District Commanders qualified for '79 "We Dare to Care" honors and an expense-paid trip to the 1979 National Convention. The top District Commander (the one whose District showed the highest percentage of membership gain) in each of five categories automatically qualified as a winner. The other two winners in each category were drawn from a container holding the names of all District commanders whose Districts surpassed their respective 1978 membership totals by May 1, 1979. Competition was divided into categories based on the membership of the Districts in 1978.

Luis Lourido, District 3,
Puerto Rico
Curtis H. Henry, District 30,
California
Bobby Jones, District 10,
Colorado
Fred Jaramillo, District 12,
New Mexico
Colon Furr, District 24,
North Carolina
Kenneth E. Hubbard, District 7,
Texas
Lyle Plato, District 6,
Florida
Charles M. True, District 7,
Kentucky

Gene Schumacher, District 14,
South Dakota
Melvin R. Pfohl, Sr., District 16,
Florida
Lawrence Wich, District 11
Arizona
Charles Smith, District 8,
Michigan
Walter F. Fishel, District 6,
Tennessee
Douglas W. Henley, Western Maryland,
Maryland
Vernon Rogstad, District 7,
Wisconsin

POST

These Post Commanders qualified for the '79 "We Dare to Care" award by leading their respective Posts to a membership, as of April 2, 1979, which was greater than any year's membership total since 1960. Their names were drawn to represent approximately 1,300 Post Commanders who recorded this outstanding achievement. These Post Commanders also received expense-paid trips to the National Convention.

Homer L. Pippin, Post 76,
Alabama
James M. Vincent, Post 517,
California
Charles H. Crimm, Post 19,
D. of C.
Russell J. Stevens, Post 339,
Florida
Bill Hatcher, Post 264,
Georgia
Robert Gibbons, Post 44,
Indiana
Randy C. Freerks, Post 316,
Iowa
James L. Young, Jr., Post 121,
Kentucky
L. L. Tyler, Post 388,
Louisiana
Alvie E. Wallace, Post 220,
Maryland
Ralph Hester, Post 32,
Michigan
Charles E. Waddle, Post 46,
Mississippi

William R. Quarton, Post 2,
Missouri
Henry Mihal, Post 484,
New Jersey
George J. Gillen, Post 1893,
New York
Flake C. Huggins, Post 217,
North Carolina
Melvin Enzminger, Post 295,
North Dakota
Wade O. Tucker, Post 29,
Oklahoma
William W. Rearick, Post 923,
Pennsylvania
Jack Mathis, Post 166,
South Carolina
William R. Henderson, Post 187,
Tennessee
Oscar A. Larson, Post 522,
Texas
L. E. Nomett, Post 108,
Virginia
Lorin Huber, Post 61,
Wisconsin
Clarence E. Parrish, Post 64,
Wyoming

DEPARTMENT

Department Commanders who qualified for '79 "We Dare to Care" honors are identified among those whose Departments achieved 100 points or better and are pictured elsewhere in this National Convention Program.

1980 AMERICAN LEGION WORLD SERIES



WRITE THE 1980 TOURNAMENT
COMMITTEE

P.O. BOX 1980 • ELY, MINNESOTA 55731

with Ticket & Housing Requests

TOURNAMENT DATE
AUGUST 28, 29, 30, 31, SEPTEMBER 1, 1980



TICKETS STILL AVAILABLE

P.O. Box 370
Greenville, MS 38701
601/334-3113



THE AMERICAN LEGION

*Wishes to express its thanks and
appreciation to the following for their
contribution toward the success of the
61st Annual National Convention*

HOUSTON-HARRIS COUNTY CHAPTER

AMERICAN RED CROSS

SAVOY HOUSTON HOTEL

HOUSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

SCHENLEY DISTILLERS COMPANY

SEAGRAM DISTILLERS COMPANY

THE DAVIESS COUNTY CORPORATION

OPEN ENERGY FORUM FOR ALL DELEGATES

American Legion Resolution No. 518 resolved that The American Legion will sponsor a series of forums or discussions throughout the country, involving groups concerned with energy or environment, not to debate but to search for common solutions to our energy problems.

The Internal Affairs Commission of The American Legion will present an Open Energy Forum, Monday, August 20, 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. in the Statesmen Ballroom A at the Sheraton Houston Hotel in Houston, Texas. Each guest will give a short speech, to be followed by a question and answer period. Everyone has that special question regarding our energy crisis, so now is your opportunity to come and get an answer.

The American Legion

Presents

**Distinguished Guest
Richard M. Morrow**



MR. RICHARD M. MORROW
President, Standard Oil of Indiana

GUEST SPEAKERS

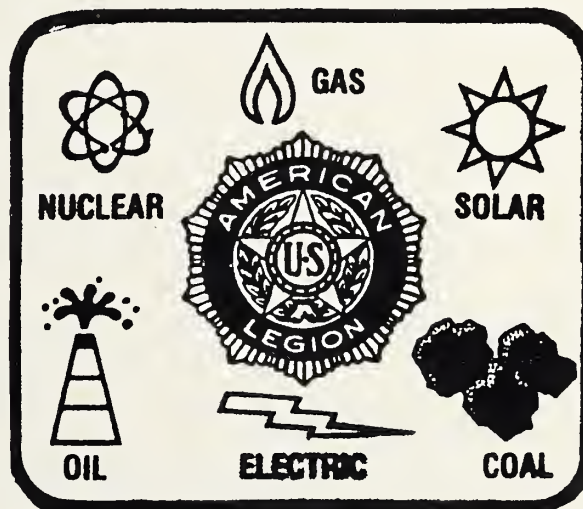
The guest speakers from private industry and government will be as follows:

PETROLEUM — Michael E. Canes, Director, Policy Analysis Department for the American Petroleum Institute

NUCLEAR — Keith Turley, President, Arizona Public Service Company

NATURAL GAS — Bob Kalisch, Associate Director of Gas Supply and Statistics, American Gas Association

CONSERVATION AND SOLAR APPLICATIONS — David Morris, Director, Institute for Local Self-Reliance, Washington, D.C.



John M. Carey, National Commander, upon recommendation of the Internal Affairs Commission, has as a distinguished guest to this National Convention Richard M. Morrow, President of Standard Oil of Indiana. Mr. Morrow's presentation will immediately follow the Credentials and Other Internal Matters Report to the Convention on Tuesday, August 21, at the Sam Houston Coliseum.

After serving 3½ years in the Navy, Mr. Morrow received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Mining and Petroleum Engineering from Ohio State University. During his career he served as Chief Engineer of Production for Amoco Production Company, Vice President and Manager of Denver Division for Amoco, Vice President of Amoco International Company, Vice President of Amoco Coal Corporation and President of Standard Oil Company of Indiana since October 1, 1978. With the administrative and technical background of Mr. Morrow, our delegates should receive some meaningful information on the petroleum future of the United States.

TEACH ALL THE CHILDREN

American Education Week
November 11-17, 1979

THE AMERICAN LEGION
One of the concerned sponsors
of American Education Week

The American Legion has made available to Department Adjutants the 1979 American Education Week Packet. This year's materials were produced by the Americanism Division of The American Legion National Headquarters.

American Education Week Packet Material

Media Spots
PACT Brochure
Sample Speech

Editorial
AEW Brochure
Proclamation



The American Legion truly
believes it is our duty to
"TEACH ALL THE CHILDREN"

Local Port is Active

Houston is the nation's third largest seaport, and contributes nearly one third to the city's economy. Is that surprising to you considering its location on the map?

The man-made channel that brings the ships 50 miles from the Gulf of Mexico was initiated by the legendary Texan Jesse Jones.

During your stay here in Houston you'll see tankers, freighters, oceanliners, ocean-going barges and ships from the navies of the Free World in addition to an occasional nuclear-powered vessel.

**Be Sure That Your
Post Is Well Represented
At Your Region's
Leadership Conference
Later This Fall!**

Houston Is Proud Name

Houston was named for Sam Houston and you'll find a statue of the Texas legend in Hermann Park on your way to the Texas medical Center on Fannin Street.

Houston was twice elected to the presidency of the Texas Republic, served 14 years in the U.S. Senate after Texas was admitted to the Union and was serving as governor when the Civil War broke out in 1861.

Houston was the architect of the San Jacinto victory which won Texas' independence from Mexico, and was considered a "soldier's soldier."

Old Sam was the heart and soul and gizzard of the Republic, and to the day of his death in 1863, he projected a powerful father image to most Texans.



PATRIOTIC RELIGIOUS SERVICE

HYATT REGENCY HOTEL — IMPERIAL BALLROOM

9:00 A.M.

Sunday, August 19, 1979

PRELUDE

PROCESSIONAL

TRUMPET CALL

ADVANCEMENT OF THE COLORS

All Present Standing

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MRS. EARL BIGALOW, *National President*
American Legion Auxiliary

CALL TO WORSHIP

National Chaplain

INVOCATION

ROBERT CHARLES SMITH, *Past National Commander*
The American Legion

MUSICAL SELECTION

"Battle Hymn of the Republic"
Singing Legionnaires
Sioux Falls Post No. 15
Sioux Falls, SD

READING OF THE HOLY SCRIPTURES

Psalm 33:11-22
RABBI DAVID JACOBSON, *Department Chaplain, Texas*
Hebrews 10:32-39
REV. CLAUDE E. SMITHMIER, *Past National Chaplain*
St. John 14:15-27
REV. JEROME D. FORTENBERRY, *Past National Chaplain*

HYMN

"My Country Tis of Thee"

MEMORIAL PRAYER

MRS. F. C. HALEY, *National Chaplain*
American Legion Auxiliary

MUSICAL SELECTION

"May Now Thy Spirit"
Singing Legionnaires

MEMORIAL MESSAGE

R. DREW WOLCOTT, *National Chaplain*
The American Legion

PLACING OF MEMORIAL WREATHS

JOHN M. CAREY, *National Commander*
FRANK C. MOMSEN, *National Adjutant*
MRS. EARL BIGALOW, *National President*
MRS. MELVIN JUNG, *National Secretary*
American Legion Auxiliary
MRS. HERMAN REIMINK, *Le Chapeau*
National, Eight and Forty
MRS. JAMES MALONE, *La Secretaire*
Cassiere, Eight and Forty
RICHARD J. KEPLER, *National Commander,*
Sons of The American Legion
W. E. VERHELST, JR., *National Chaplain,*
Sons of The American Legion

HYMN

"God of Our Fathers"

BENEDICTION

REV. FR. WALTER D. POWER,
Past National Chaplain

TAPS

RETIREMENT OF THE COLORS

JOHN M. CAREY

RECESSIONAL



The American Legion

National Convention Corporation of Texas

Officers, Board of Directors and Executive Committee



Jack W. Flynt
President



Jack Tancred
*Vice President &
General Convention
Chairman*



Joe L. Matthews
Vice President



W. W. Foerster
*Vice President &
Ass't. Gen. Chrmn.*



Waggoner Carr
General Counsel



W. H. McGregor
Secretary



Wilson Turner
Treasurer

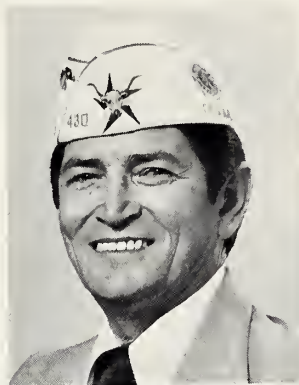
The American Legion

National Convention Corporation of Texas

Officers, Board of Directors and Executive Committee



John Bruckner
Ass't. Gen. Chrmn.



Harvey Holcomb



Irving Shepard



Sen. Lindon Williams



L. C. McWhorter
*Convention
Coordinator*



Robert K. Gilbert
Special Consultant



C. "Red" Sonntag, Jr.
Ass't. Gen. Chrmn.



John Morris
Ass't. Gen. Chrmn.



E. D. Franklin, Jr.
Ass't. Gen. Chrmn.

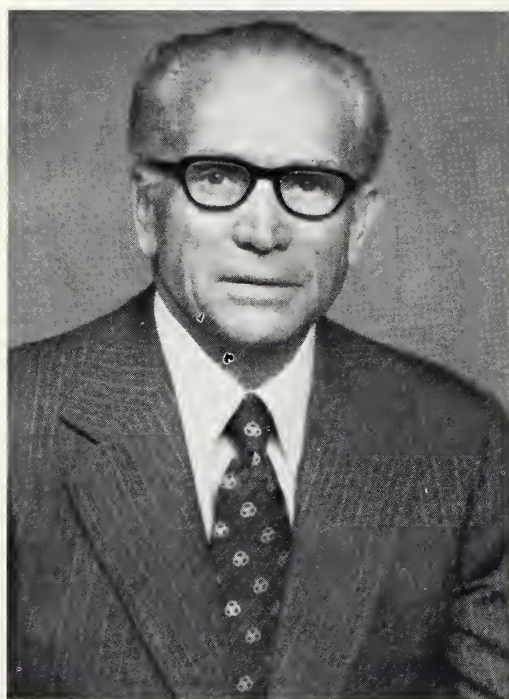


Michael Reid
Ass't. Gen. Chrmn.

General Motor's Executive Is Distinguished Service Medal Awardee

The American Legion's Distinguished Service Medal, the highest award The American Legion can bestow, will go to Thomas A. Murphy, chairman of the board of directors, chairman of GM's Finance Committee and chief executive officer of General Motors Corporation, its was announced today by John M. Carey, National Commander of the nation's largest veterans organization.

The presentation is scheduled for approximately 11 a.m., Thursday, Aug. 23, from the platform of the 61st Annual National Convention of The American Legion in Sam Houston Coliseum, Houston, Texas.



Thomas A. Murphy

The Legion resolution recommending Murphy for the Distinguished Service Medal cited, in addition to his business achievements, his outstanding record of public service including the providing of "leadership, talent and financial expertise to the United Negro College Fund, United Way of America, Columbia University/McGraw Hill and the Joint Council on Economic Education."

Also cited was his personal commitment to the renovation of the Detroit inner city as a director of Detroit Renaissance and a trustee of New Detroit, Inc., and for his concern for perpetuation of the cultural value of the arts through his activity with the Business Committee of the Arts, and as trustee for Founders Society Detroit Institute of Arts.

Mr. Murphy's dedication to the prosperity of the nation, creating jobs for veterans and for all Americans, through his domestic business leadership and the encouragement of international trade, was also noted in the nominating resolution.

Born Dec. 10, 1915, at Hornell, N.Y., Mr. Murphy attended Leo High School in Chicago, Ill., and received bachelor of science degree in accounting from the University of Illinois in 1938.

He joined the Comptroller's staff of General Motors immediately upon graduation and held successive positions as an accountant, statistician and supervisor of corporate forecasts and financial analysis. He continued to serve the finance department of GM in positions of increasing responsibility and was named assistant treasurer in 1959 and in 1967 was elected comptroller of GM, with headquarters in Detroit, and treasurer on Nov. 7, 1968. In 1970 he was named vice president and group executive in charge of the Car and Truck Group.

On Dec. 1, 1974, he was elected chairman of the board of directors and chief executive officer of the corporation.

Mr. Murphy is a veteran of World War II service with the U.S. Navy, and has received honorary doctorates from Fordham University, Canisius College, Rosary Hill College, Tougaloo College, the University of Detroit, Depauw University, Iona College, New York University, College of Mount St. Vincent, and Notre Dame.

Puerto Rico Wins



L. Andujar

Puerto Rico joined 44 other American Legion Departments in amassing 100 or more points for outstanding membership endeavor for 1979. Their accomplishment came after the original story and pictures were finished for the National Convention Program. So, in order to recognize the fine membership work done in Puerto Rico we are proud to put Department Commander Luis A. Andujar's picture in this space.



OFFICIAL PROGRAM

Sixty-First Annual National Convention of The American Legion



A typical American Legion National scene is pictured above, and this particular photo is from The American Legion's 1971 National Convention in Houston during the election of the National Commander.

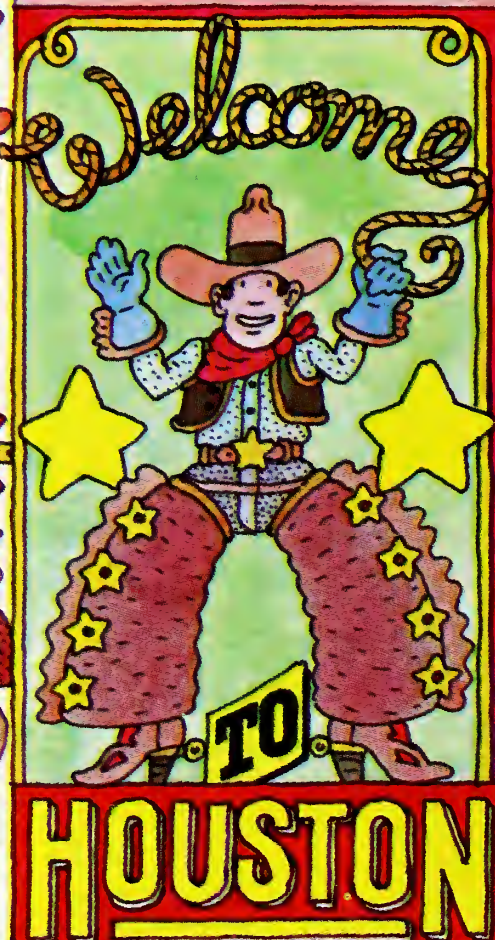
GET AROUND AT THE BIG ROUNDUP.

Seagram Distillers, in cooperation with the Legion, has made this colorful map to get you to the really big one – the 61st Annual Convention.

There'll be real excitement at the Sam Houston Coliseum in Houston, Texas on Wednesday afternoon, August 22, 1979, when two happy people discover they've won new Ford Granada 2-door hardtops donated by the Seagram Posts. The drawing will be held during the Convention Session.

Marchers will assemble in the blue area bounded by Capitol, Walker, Smith, and Bagby. The parade will start at 7 P.M. on Sunday, August 19th. Marchers will move along Rusk; following red trail, they will make a left on Louisiana and proceed north to Texas, then east to Main, south on Main, west on Bell, north on Travis to Walker, then proceed west on Walker to the disbanding area.

Have a great time, and be sure to enjoy Seagram's quality in moderation.



BUFFALO

RAYOU RIVER

TEXAS

WALKER

CAPITOL

RUSK

MCKINNEY

SMITH

TEXAS

BAGBY



DISBANDING AREA

WALKER

CITY HALL

OLD LIBRARY

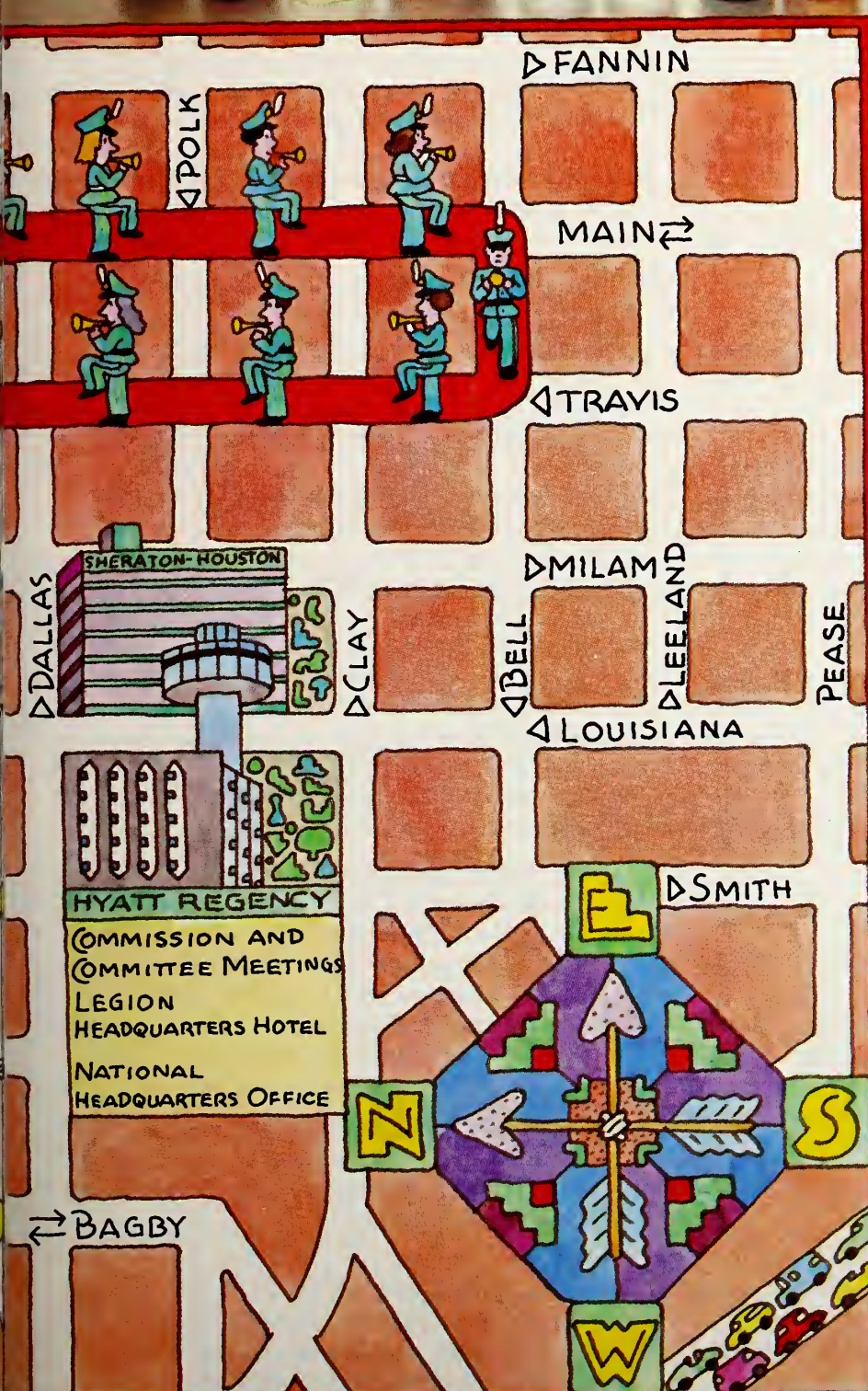
BRAZOS

CENTRAL LIBRARY

DISBANDING AREA

CITY HALL ANNEX

SAM HOUSTON COLISEUM & MUSIC HALL



SHAMROCK HILTON
SHAMROCK HILTON HOTEL
AUXILIARY HEADQUARTERS

→ TO ASTRODOME →

SEAGRAM'S 7 CROWN. AMERICAN WHISKY—A BLEND. 80 PROOF. SEAGRAM'S V.O., CANADIAN WHISKY. A BLEND. 6 YEARS OLD. 86.8 PROOF. SEAGRAM'S EXTRA DRY GIN. 80 PROOF. DISTILLED DRY GIN. DISTILLED FROM GRAIN. SEAGRAM'S CROWN ROYAL. BLENDED CANADIAN WHISKY. 80 PROOF. WOLFESCHMIDT VODKA. DISTILLED FROM GRAIN. 80 AND 100 PROOF. WOLFESCHMIDT, RELAY, MD. THE GLENLIVET SCOTCH, 12 YEAR OLD UNBLENDED SCOTCH WHISKY. 86 PROOF. GLENLIVET DISTILLING CO., NEW YORK, N.Y. THE FAMOUS GROUSE. 86 PROOF, BLENDED SCOTCH WHISKY. BOTTLED IN SCOTLAND. IMPORTED BY THE FAMOUS GROUSE IMPORT CO., NEW YORK, N.Y. JAMES FOXE, 80 PROOF. IMPORTED AND BOTTLED BY JAMES FOXE DISTILLING CO., N.Y., N.Y. BENCHMARK. KENTUCKY STRAIGHT BOURBON WHISKY. 86 PROOF. THE OLD BENCHMARK DISTILLING CO., LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY. MYERS'S RUM. IMPORTED AND BOTTLED BY FRED L. MYERS, BALTIMORE, MD. 80 PROOF. SEAGRAM DISTILLERS COMPANY, N.Y.C.

STANDING RULES OF THE NATIONAL CONVENTION

The following are the Standing Rules of the National Convention as contained in the "UNIFORM CODE OF PROCEDURE FOR THE ORGANIZATION OF NATIONAL CONVENTIONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION," authorized under Article V, Section 6, of the National Constitution of The American Legion.

STANDING RULES OF THE NATIONAL CONVENTION

1. Robert's Revised Rules of Order shall be the authority on parliamentary procedure, with the following modifications:
2. A delegate desiring to make a motion or address the Convention, shall rise, address the Chair as "Mr. Commander" and state his name and the name of the Department before proceeding.
3. Debate shall be limited to five minutes for each speaker.
4. Debate on any one subject presented to the Convention shall be limited to two hours except under such special rule as the Convention shall adopt prior to debate.
5. But two delegates from any one delegation shall be permitted the floor on any one question. Where disagreement exists within a delegation one delegate shall be permitted to speak on each side of the question. Upon a division of the question, however, this rule shall be applied separately for each division.
6. The floor shall be permitted but once to any individual delegate on any one question, except by a two-thirds vote of the Convention. Chairmen of Convention Committees may speak as frequently as may be necessary in connection with the reports of their committees. The Presiding Officer shall not entertain any motion which will curtail further debate without affording the Committee Chairman an opportunity for rebuttal.
7. Decisions on Rules of Debate or parliamentary order by the Presiding Officer may be subject to appeal by any two delegates under a Point of Order. Such appeal shall take precedence over any pending questions and shall be decided forthwith. An appeal from the decision of the Chair shall be put to the Convention on the question: "Shall the Chair be sustained?"
8. When the poll of any Department Delegation is demanded by a delegate of such department, the Convention Secretary shall poll the vote without discussion of the question being voted upon.
9. On the Roll Calls, the delegation Chairman shall poll his delegation on the floor and announce its vote.
10. In the event a delegation secretary is not an accredited delegate or alternate, he shall be seated with his delegation.
11. Past National Commanders' votes shall be cast with their delegations.
12. Only accredited delegates or their alternates, shall participate, directly or indirectly, in a viva voce vote on any subject before the convention.
13. Department delegations may arrive at a vote in such manner as they choose, but shall announce it in terms of full units and not in terms of a fractional part of a vote. The vote of any delegate absent and not represented by an alternate shall be cast by the majority of the delegates present from his Department.
14. There shall be no unit rule of voting.
15. Voting shall be by acclamation, except when a Roll Call is demanded by the Chairman of at least three Departments. Election of National Officers shall be by roll call.
16. In the event a Department has not provided the method by which alternates shall be designated to serve in the place of absent delegates, the Chairman of the delegation shall make such designation.
17. Prior to the election of National Officers, the National Commander shall appoint, subject to approval of the Convention, a Judge of Election and such number of tellers as he deems necessary, provided that the total tellers so appointed shall be an odd number. In a contested election each candidate going to the ballot shall be entitled to one teller of his choice.
18. Nominations for National Officers shall be from the floor on Roll Call of the Departments alphabetically arranged. Each Department may present as many candidates as it chooses.
19. Nominating speeches for National Officers shall be limited to five minutes each. Not more than two seconding speeches shall be made for any candidate, and said speeches shall be limited to three minutes.

20. When more than two candidates are nominated for any office, balloting shall continue until one candidate receives a majority of the votes of the Convention, except in the election of National Vice-Commanders.
21. In a contested election for National Vice Commanders, balloting shall continue until (a) majorities and (b) pluralities are established for one or more candidates under the following provisions:

If, on any ballot taken, less than five candidates receive the necessary majority to elect, the candidate or candidates receiving a majority vote shall be declared elected and a new ballot shall be taken for the remaining number of places to be filled. The candidate receiving the lowest number of votes on the preceding ballot shall be disqualified; except should two candidates remain to fill one place, a new ballot shall be taken.
22. The Convention will nominate and elect a National Commander, and five National Vice Commanders, in this sequence.
23. At the conclusion of balloting on National Vice Commanders, each Department Delegation Chairman shall deliver a written ballot to the tellers. Such ballots shall be in the hands of the tellers before communication is made to the National Commander for announcement of the results.
24. Those recognized by the National Commander shall be entitled to a respectful hearing, and the Chair shall have the authority to clear the gallery or the floor or have the Sergeant-at-Arms escort from the Convention any one creating a disturbance or interfering with orderly procedure.
25. None of the above rules shall be construed as preventing an alternate delegate from serving on a Convention committee.
26. The consent of two-thirds of the voting strength of the Convention is necessary for suspension of the standing rules of the Convention.
27. Any amendment to any resolution or report originating on the floor shall be presented in writing and transmitted to the Presiding Officer at the time of the introduction of such amendment.

28. Special rules applying to specific issues or order of business, shall be written and presented to the Convention by the Legislation and Rules Committee for adoption by majority vote at least one hour before such issue, or order, is to be considered unless such rule is agreed to by unanimous consent of the final session. Special rules shall prevail only in the Convention adopting them.

Any delegate may apply for a special rule to the Legislation and Rules Committee or may appeal to the Convention for such special rule provided the rule be presented in writing, be read once from the platform, and shall lay upon the table at least one hour before the vote thereon is taken.

CONGRATULATIONS
to
THE AMERICAN
LEGION

For Your Service
to
God and Country

THE BRONZE CRAFT CORP.
Nashua, New Hampshire

Best Wishes to
THE AMERICAN LEGION
Compliments
of
A Friend

AGENDA
61ST ANNUAL NATIONAL CONVENTION
THE AMERICAN LEGION
HOUSTON, TEXAS

TUESDAY, AUGUST 21, 1979

8:30 a.m.

BAND CONCERT

Joliet American Legion Band
American Legion Post No. 1284
Joliet, Illinois

9:00 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER

John M. "Jack" Carey (Michigan)
National Commander

ADVANCEMENT OF COLORS

First National Bank of Chicago
Senior Color Guard
American Legion Post No. 985
Chicago, Illinois

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION AND LIGHTING

OF PEACE CANDLE

R. Drew Wolcott (Mexico)
National Chaplain

**PREAMBLE TO THE AMERICAN
LEGION CONSTITUTION**

John M. "Jack" Carey (Michigan)
National Commander

CALL FOR CONVENTION

Frank C. Momsen (Minnesota)
National Adjutant

9:15 a.m.

WELCOME

The Honorable Lindon Williams
Texas State Senator

The Honorable Jim McConn
Mayor of Houston

George H. Skelly, 1978-79 *Department Commander*
The American Legion of Texas

Jack W. Flynt, *President*
American Legion National Convention
Corporation of Texas

RESPONSE TO ADDRESSES OF WELCOME

John M. "Jack" Carey (Michigan)
National Commander

9:40 a.m.

NATIONAL COMMANDER'S REPORT

John M. "Jack" Carey (Michigan)
National Commander

10:00 a.m.

GREETINGS

The Honorable Max Cleland, *Administrator*
Veterans Administration

10:15 a.m.

PRESENTATION of Medallion to the City of
New Orleans Louisiana — Host City for
the 1978 National Convention

By: Robert Charles Smith (Louisiana)
Past National Commander

To: The Honorable Ernest N. Morial
Mayor of New Orleans

10:20 a.m.

GREETINGS

J. Edward Radley, *President-elect*
The Society of American Legion Founders

E. C. Coley, *Dominion President*
Royal Canadian Legion

L. J. Murphy, *Dominion President*
Army, Navy and Air Force Veterans in Canada

10:35 a.m.

**Report of CREDENTIALS AND INTERNAL
AFFAIRS — Section I**

10:45 a.m.

ADDRESS

Richard M. Morrow, *President*
Standard Oil Company (Indiana)



The Sam Houston Coliseum, shown here, will be the site of general sessions of the 1979 National Convention on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, Aug. 21-23. This is the same location that was used for sessions of the Convention proper when The American Legion convened in Houston, Texas, in 1971.

11:05 a.m.

GREETINGS

Mrs. Earl B. Bigalow (Oregon)

National President, American Legion Auxiliary

The Honorable T. Y. Chao, *Chairman*

Vocational Assistance Commission for Retired
Servicemen, Republic of China

Vice Admiral Maeng Kee Lee, ROKN, Ret.,

President

The Korean Veterans Association

11:25 a.m.

PRESENTATION of National Security Medal of the
Government of the Republic of Korea

By: Vice Admiral Maeng Kee Lee, ROKN, Ret.,

President

The Korean Veterans Association

To: Robert D. Gordon (Michigan)

11:30 a.m.

Report of LEGISLATIVE AND RULES

12:30 p.m.

ADDRESS

SALUTE TO COLORS

RECESS

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 22, 1979

9:00 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER

John M. "Jack" Carey (Michigan)

National Commander

SALUTE TO COLORS

INVOCATION

R. Drew Wolcott (Mexico)

National Chaplain

9:05 a.m.

Report of AMERICANISM

9:45 a.m.

PRESENTATION — Representatives of The American
Legion Youth Programs

American Legion Scout of the Year —

David E. Gregory, Ciudad Satelite, Mexico

1979 National Oratorical Contest Winner —

Fernando Baell, Jr., Lafayette Hill,
Pennsylvania

1979 Boys Nation President — Frank J. DeSiena,
Clifton Park, New York

10:05 a.m.

PRESENTATION — William Randolph Hearst
Americanism Trophy

By: William Thomas, *Publisher*

Midland Reporter-Telegram

Midland, Texas

To: Winning Department

10:20 a.m.

INTRODUCTION — Sons of The American Legion's
Newly Elected National Commander

10:25 a.m.

Report of CREDENTIALS AND INTERNAL
AFFAIRS — Membership Recognition of
"COMMANDERS WHO DARE"

10:55 a.m.

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

By: John M. "Jack" Carey (Michigan)

National Commander

To: R. Drew Wolcott (Mexico)

National Chaplain

11:00 a.m.

PRESENTATION — The American Legion
Distinguished Public Service Award

By: John M. "Jack" Carey (Michigan)

National Commander

To: The Honorable Alan Cranston (California)

*Chairman, Senate Committee on Veterans
Affairs*

ADDRESS

The Honorable Alan Cranston (California)

Chairman, Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs

11:35 a.m.

Report of VETERANS AFFAIRS AND
REHABILITATION

Claims and Ratings

Hospital and Medical Services

12:35 p.m.

Report of ECONOMIC

Employment and Veterans Preference

Other Economic Matters

1:05 p.m.

PRESENTATION — Employer of the Year Awards
for Hiring Veterans

By: John M. "Jack" Carey (Michigan)

National Commander

To: John G. Gerity, *President*

Maine Central Railroad, Portland, Maine

To: Edward D. Mallam, Plant Manager

Donaldson Company, Inc., Oelwein, Iowa

**NOTE: Times of subsequent sessions and time of
Convention Committee Reports are subject to
change by the Chair.**

1:30 p.m.

Report of CHILDREN & YOUTH

1:45 p.m.

Report of FINANCE

2:00 p.m.

Report of FOREIGN RELATIONS

2:15 p.m.

Report of CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

SALUTE TO COLORS

RECESS

2:30 p.m.

Seagram Ford Awards Drawing

(Originally scheduled at the Astrodome)

THURSDAY, AUGUST 23, 1979

9:00 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER

John M. "Jack" Carey (Michigan)

National Commander

SALUTE TO COLORS

INVOCATION

R. Drew Wolcott (Mexico)

National Chaplain

9:05 a.m.

Report of NATIONAL SECURITY

Aerospace

Defense Civil Preparedness

Law and Order

Merchant Marine

Military Affairs

Naval Affairs

10:00 a.m.

ADDRESS

Admiral T. B. Hayward, USN

Chief of Naval Operations

10:30 a.m.

PRESENTATION

The American Legion Fourth Estate Award

By: John M. "Jack" Carey (Michigan)

National Commander

To: Frank Mankiewicz, *President*

National Public Radio

10:45 a.m.

PRESENTATION

National Commander's Public Relations Citations

By: John M. "Jack" Carey (Michigan)

National Commander

To: KHOU-TV, Houston, Texas

KHTV-TV, Houston, Texas

KPRC-TV, Houston, Texas

KRIV-TV, Houston, Texas

KTRK-TV, Houston, Texas

KUHT-TV, Houston, Texas

11:00 a.m.

PRESENTATION

The American Legion Distinguished Service Medal

By: John M. "Jack" Carey (Michigan)

National Commander

To: Thomas A. Murphy, *Chairman of the Board*

General Motors Corporation

11:15 a.m.

PRESENTATION OF PLAQUE AND COLORS TO OUTGOING NATIONAL COMMANDER

By: Donald C. Huntley (Michigan)

12:00 noon

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

ELECTION OF NATIONAL OFFICERS

National Commander

ACCEPTANCE SPEECH BY NEWLY

ELECTED NATIONAL COMMANDER

Five (5) National Vice Commanders

1:00 p.m.

PRESENTATION OF COLORS TO INCOMING NATIONAL COMMANDER

RESPONSE BY NEWLY ELECTED

NATIONAL COMMANDER

PRESENTATION OF NEWLY ELECTED

NATIONAL PRESIDENT OF AMERICAN

LEGION AUXILIARY

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

BENEDICTION

RETIREMENT OF COLORS

FINAL ADJOURNMENT

NOTE: The National Executive Committee will meet within twenty-four hours after the close of the Convention — upon call of the National Commander.

Distinguished Guests

Major Edward L. Andrew, USA, Chief,
National Organizations Branch,
DCR, OASO (PA)

Fernando Baell, Jr.
National Oratorical Contest
Winner for 1979

Major Harvey C. Barnum, Jr., USMC
2d Recruit Training Battalion
Parris Island, South Carolina

Rear Admiral Joseph J. Barth, Jr.,
USN
Naval Air Station
Corpus Christi, Texas

James Bauer
KUHT Television

C. Randolph Beard, Jr., President
Annin & Company

George W. Bentley
Society of American Legion Founders

Mrs. Earl B. Bigalow
National President
American Legion Auxiliary

Col. Robert J. Blissard, USAF
147th Fighter-Interceptor Group (ANG)
Ellington AFB, Texas

John C. Brogan
Youngberg-Carlson Co.

Cdr. (R) Edward Bryant, USCG
Ipswich, Massachusetts

John Campbell
Houston, Texas

Henry Capdepon, Sr.
Society of American Legion Founders

Mr. and Mrs. John Carey
Providence, Rhode Island

Mrs. John T. Carey
Mt. Pleasant, Michigan

Miss Marcia Sue Carey
Omaha, Nebraska

Benjamin L. Carleton
Youngberg-Carlson Co.

Waggoner Carr
Austin, Texas

Hon. T. Y. Chao, Chairman
Vocational Assistance Commission for
Retired Servicemen
Taipei, Taiwan, Republic of China

Robert I. Clark
State Director for Veterans
Employment
Tallahassee, Florida

Max Cleland, Administrator
Veterans Administration

Major General Charles G. Cleveland,
USAF
Air Training Command
Randolph Air Force Base, Texas

E. C. Coley, Dominion President
The Royal Canadian Legion

Thomas B. Coll
U.S. Department of Justice

Ms. Nancy J. Collins
Defense Civil Preparedness Agency

Ms. Johnelle Collura
KRIV Television

Richard L. Cook
Office of Federal Contract Compliance
Programs

Robert C. Coon
Veterans Administration

James H. Cornett
State Director for Veterans Employment
Austin, Texas

Cmdr. Jay Coup, Jr.,
Department of the Navy

Hon. Alan Cranston
Majority Whip
United States Senate

James V. Day
Federal Maritime Commissioner

Frank J. DeSiena
President, Boys Nation

Maurice E. Druhl
Portland, Oregon

Garnet E. Ferguson
Society of American Legion Founders

Hamilton Fish
Society of American Legion Founders

Albert B. Fletcher, Jr., Chief Judge
U.S. Court of Military Appeals

Jack W. Flynt, President
American Legion National Convention
Corporation of Texas

W. W. Foerster, Vice President
American Legion National Convention
Corporation of Texas

Harry Foster
Society of American Legion Founders

John F. Gerity, President
Maine Central Railroad

Bobby R. Gillham
Federal Bureau of Investigation

M. Morton Goldenberg, President
S. Abrahams & Company, Inc.

Robert D. Gordon
Midland, Michigan

Distinguished Guests



LINDON WILLIAMS
STATE SENATOR

July 18, 1979

TO THOSE ATTENDING THE 1979 NATIONAL CONVENTION OF THE
AMERICAN LEGION:

It is indeed my pleasure and privilege to welcome you as
delegates and special guests to the State of Texas for the
61st Annual Convention of the American Legion.

The almost three million members of the American Legion have
earned a proud record of accomplishment and the citizens of
Texas take pride in saluting you - the outstanding men and
women who are recognized throughout the world for your
courageous and untiring vigilance for justice, freedom and
democracy.

Your personal devotion to your fellow man in the communities
across this land make an invaluable contribution to the
greatness of our Nation.

Within a few miles of the convention site you may sample the
diversity which has made the city of Houston such an exciting
place in which to live and visit, such as the Astrodome and
Astroworld, the Herman Park Zoo, the Museum of Fine Art, the
Alley Theatre, the Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, the Port
of Houston and the worlds largest petro-chemical complex.

On behalf of the citizens of the Lone Star State, welcome,
and our very best wishes for a successful, pleasant and
productive convention.

Sincerely,

Lindon Williams
Lindon Williams

LW:cc



Lindon Williams
Texas State Senator

Hon. Jim McConn
Mayor of Houston

Davis E. McCutcheon
Society of American Legion Founders
W. H. McGregor, Secretary
American Legion National Convention
Corporation of Texas

John D. McKinny
U.S. Department of Labor

Ms. Gretchen McNeese
Chicago, Illinois

Ms. Betty Milligan
KTRK Television

Hon. Ernest N. Morial
Mayor of New Orleans

Richard M. Morrow, President
Standard Oil of Indiana

Richard G. Moss
The United States Life Insurance Co.
in the City of New York

L. J. Murphy, Dominion President
Army, Navy and Air Force Veterans
in Canada

Robert F. "Sam" Murphy
Chelmsford, Massachusetts

Thomas A. Murphy
Chairman of the Board
General Motors Corporation

Theodore W. Myatt, Director
VA Regional Office

Richard Nelson
Houston, Texas

David Gortz
Leterman-Gortz Corporation

David E. Gregory
American Legion Boy Scout of the Year

Ms. Ann Griffiths
National League of Families

Homer R. Hauer
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Admiral Thomas B. Hayward, USN
Chief of Naval Operations
Department of the Navy

William A. Hazlewood, Jr.
Regional Director for Veterans
Employment

Brigadier General William Hill, USA
49th Armor Division — Texas Army
National Guard
Camp Mabry, Austin, Texas

Cmdr. Richard W. Hunter, USN
Department of Defense

Gene R. Jacobson
KHTV Television

S. L. Jerpbak
Society of American Legion Founders

Ross Jones
American Legion Baseball Player
of the Year

Joseph Juarez
Department of Labor

John F. Kaslatis
Kansas Color Press, Inc.
Lawrence, Kansas

Col. Jack D. Kaufman, USA
Mobilization Readiness Division —
Selective Service System

Tom Kenney
KHOU Television

Gus Kraus
New Orleans, LA

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Lacina
Grand Blanc, Michigan

J. E. A. J. Lamy
Royal Canadian Legion

Vice Admiral Maeng Kee Lee
(ROKN, Ret.)
President, The Korean Veterans Assn.

Derrill Lewis
Texas Employment Commission

Jose M. Lopez
Congressional Medal of Honor

Edward D. Mallam, Plant Manager
Donaldson Company, Inc.

Frank Mankiewicz, President
National Public Radio

Distinguished Guests

Carl T. Noll
Veterans Administration

Wallace Oberlender
Houston, Texas

Daniel R. O'Sullivan
Seagram Distillers Co.

Mrs. Alvin M. Owsley
Dallas, Texas

Claude B. Payne
Society of American Legion Founders

Lt. Gen. Charles C. Pixley
The Surgeon General
Department of the Army

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Privateer
Grand Blanc, Michigan

J. Edward Radley
President-elect
The Society of American Legion
Founders

Tom Reiff
KPRC Television

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Reihl
Remus, Michigan

Francis J. Sanfilippo
Occidental Life Insurance Co.
of California

Paul W. Schafer, M.D., President
National Association of VA Physicians

Donald Schwartz, President
Medallic Art Co.

Edward Scott
U.S. Senate Committee on Veterans
Affairs

John V. Sheehan, Director
VA Medical Center
Houston, Texas

Col. John T. Sheffey, USA
National Association for Uniformed
Services

George H. Skelly, Department Commander
The American Legion of Texas

John Smith, President
Kansas Color Press, Inc.

Robert Charles Smith
Past National Commander
Springhill, Louisiana

Frank J. Specht
Washington, D.C.

Miss Dorothy L. Starbuck
Veterans Administration

I. K. Stevenson
Society of American Legion Founders

Jack Tancred, General Chairman
American Legion National Convention
Corporation of Texas

William Thomas, Publisher
Midland Reporter-Telegram

Ernie W. Tullis, Administrator
Texas Employment Commission

Wilson Turner, Treasurer
American Legion National Convention
Corporation of Texas

Jim Ward
U.S. Coast Guard

Hon. Lindon Williams
Texas State Senator

Major Roy Williamson
Department of the Air Force

James E. Wilson
Veterans Federal Employment
Representative

Robert L. Woodrum
U.S. Office of Personnel Management

Rear Admiral Paul A. Yost, USCG
8th Coast Guard District
New Orleans, Louisiana

Edward W. Zalesky
Leavens Manufacturing Company



The Hyatt Regency Houston Welcomes THE AMERICAN LEGION

August 17-23, 1979





HYATT REGENCY HOUSTON
1200 Louisiana Houston, Texas (713)654-1234

Past National Commanders



The American Legion 1919-1978

*Franklin D'Olier
Pennsylvania 1919-20
**Frederick W. Galbraith, Jr.
Ohio 1920-21

***John G. Emery
Michigan 1921

*Hanford MacNider
Iowa 1921-22

*Alvin M. Owsley
Texas 1922-23

*John R. Quinn
California 1923-24

*James A. Drain
District of Columbia 1924-25

*John R. McQuigg
Ohio 1925-26

*Howard P. Savage
Illinois 1926-27

*Edward E. Spafford
New York 1927-28

*Paul V. McNutt
Indiana 1928-29

*O. Lee Bodenhamer
Arkansas 1929-30

*Ralph T. O'Neil
Kansas 1930-31

*Henry L. Stevens, Jr.
North Carolina 1931-32

*Louis Johnson
West Virginia 1932-33

*Edward A. Hayes
Illinois 1933-34

*Frank N. Belgrano, Jr.
California 1934-35

*Ray Murphy
Iowa 1935-36

Harry W. Colmery
Kansas 1936-37

*Daniel J. Doherty
Massachusetts 1937-38

*Stephen F. Chadwick
Washington 1938-39

*Raymond J. Kelly
Michigan 1939-40

*Milo J. Warner
Ohio 1940-41

*Lynn U. Stambaugh
North Dakota 1941-42

*Roane Waring
Tennessee 1942-43

*Warren H. Atherton
California 1943-44

*Edward N. Scheiberling
New York 1944-45

*John Stelle
Illinois 1945-46

*Paul H. Griffith
Pennsylvania 1946-47

James F. O'Neil
New Hampshire 1947-48

Perry Brown
Texas 1948-49

George N. Craig
Indiana 1949-50

Erle Cocke, Jr.
Georgia 1950-51

Donald R. Wilson
West Virginia 1951-52

*Lewis K. Gough
California 1952-53

*Arthur J. Connell
Connecticut 1953-54

*Seaborn P. Collins
New Mexico 1954-55

J. Addington Wagner
Michigan 1955-56

Dan Daniel
Virginia 1956-57

John S. Gleason, Jr.
Illinois 1957-58

Preston J. Moore
Oklahoma 1958-59

Martin B. McKneally
New York 1959-60

William R. Burke
California 1960-61

Charles L. Bacon
Missouri 1961-62

*James E. Powers
Georgia 1962-63

Daniel F. Foley
Minnesota 1963-64

Donald E. Johnson
Iowa 1964-65

L. Eldon James
Virginia 1965-66

John E. Davis
North Dakota 1966-67

William E. Galbraith
Nebraska 1967-68

William C. Doyle
New Jersey 1968-69

J. Milton Patrick
Oklahoma 1969-70

Alfred P. Chamie
California 1970-71

John H. Geiger
Illinois 1971-72

Joe L. Matthews
Texas 1972-73

Robert E. L. Eaton
Maryland 1973-74

James M. Wagonseller
Ohio 1974-75

Harry G. Wiles
Kansas 1975-76

William J. Rogers
Maine 1976-77

Robert Charles Smith
Louisiana 1977-78

PAST NATIONAL COMMANDERS BY VOTE OF NATIONAL CONVENTION

*Bennett Champ Clark
Missouri — Presided at Paris caucus
March, 1919

*Milton J. Foreman
Illinois — Chairman, Executive
Committee at Paris

*Henry D. Lindsley
Texas — Presided at St. Louis caucus
May 1919

*Theodore Roosevelt, Jr.
New York

*Eric Fisher Wood
Pennsylvania — Temporary Chairman and
Secretary at Paris caucus

*Thomas W. Miller
Nevada — Chairman Pro Tempore
Paris Caucus March 1919

*Maurice Stember
New York

HONORARY NATIONAL COMMANDERS

*General John J. Pershing
*Marshal Ferdinand Foch

*Deceased

**Killed in auto accident while serving as Commander
***Elected by Executive Committee to fill unexpired term.

Recipients of The American Legion

Distinguished Service Medal

Thomas A. Murphy
1979



Marshal Ferdinand Foch
of France — 1921
Adm. Earl Beatty
of Great Britain — 1921
Gen. Baron Jacques
of Belgium — 1921
Gen. Armando Diaz
of Italy — 1921
Charles Bertrand
of France — 1921
Gen. of the Armies
John J. Pershing
1922
Adm. Robert E. Coontz
1923
Gen. Josef Haller
of Poland — 1923
Ignace Jan Paderewski
of Poland — 1926
Comte
Francois Marie Robert Dejean
of France — 1927
Field Marshal Viscount Allenby
of Great Britain — 1928
Judge Kenesaw Mountain Landis
1929
Adm. William S. Sims
1930
Gen. Douglas MacArthur
1942
Gen. George C. Marshall
1943
Adm. Ernest J. King
1943
Hon. Frank Knox
(Posthumously) — 1944
Henry Ford
1944
Gen. H. H. Arnold
1944
President Franklin D. Roosevelt
(Posthumously) — 1945
Gen. Theodore Roosevelt, Jr.
(Posthumously) — 1945
Ernest (Ernie) Pyle
(Posthumously) — 1945
Hon. Henry L. Stimson
1945
Fleet Adm. Chester W. Nimitz
1945

Gen. of the Army
Dwight D. Eisenhower
1945
J. Edgar Hoover
1946
Bob Hope
1946
William Randolph Hearst
1946
Maj. Gen. Lewis B. Hershey
1946
Hon. Cordell Hull
1946
Lt. Gen. William S. Knudsen
1947
Sen. Edward Martin
1947
Chief Justice Fred M. Vinson
1947
President Harry S. Truman
1949
George Herman (Babe) Ruth
(Posthumously) — 1949
Maj. Gen. Frank Parker
(Posthumously) — 1949
Charles F. Johnson, Jr.
1950
Maj. Gen. Milton A. Reckord
1950
Rep. Edith Nourse Rogers
1950
Gen. Charles P. Summerall
1951
Rep. Royal C. Johnson
(Posthumously) — 1953
Maj. Gen. George A. White
(Posthumously) — 1954
Dr. Jonas E. Salk
1955
Maj. Gen. Ellard A. Walsh
1955
Vice Adm. Joel T. Boone
1956
Charles Stewart Mott
1956
Gen. Mark W. Clark
1957
The Most Reverend
Fulton J. Sheen
1957
Bernard Mannes Baruch
1958

Unknown Servicemen of
World War I, World War II,
and Korea,
interred at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier,
Arlington National Cemetery — 1958
Sen. Robert S. Kerr
1959
President John F. Kennedy
1961
Gen. Lucius D. Clay
1962
Dr. Thomas A. Dooley
(Posthumously) — 1962
Francis Cardinal Spellman
1963
Dr. Charles W. Mayo
1964
President Herbert C. Hoover
(Posthumously) — 1965
Hon. James F. Byrnes
1965
Capt. Roger H. C. Donlon
1966
Hon. Tom C. Clark
1967
President Lyndon B. Johnson
1968
Gen. William C. Westmoreland
1968
President Richard M. Nixon
1969
Rep. Olin E. Teague
1970
Rep. L. Mendel Rivers
(Posthumously) — 1971
Sen. Richard B. Russell
(Posthumously) — 1971
Sen. John C. Stennis
1972
Dewitt Wallace
1972
Hon. Henry A. Kissinger
1974
Rep. F. Edward Hebert
1974
Harry W. Colmery
1975
Pat O'Brien
1976
Howard A. Rusk, M.D.
1977
Bowie K. Kuhn
1978



Enroll Now For 34th Term

The challenges of tomorrow — the accomplishments that can bring even greater glory to The American Legion — await the competent decisions and sincere actions of capable Legionnaires in their respective communities. In order to perform their specific duties to the best of their ability, Legion leaders must fully understand The American Legion — its history, its accomplishments, its structure, its programs, and, especially, how it functions today.

The American Legion Extension Institute will give this basic knowledge of our organization. A home study plan, the course consists of six monthly lessons. Students check their own progress by a series of questions at the end of each lesson.

Students will complete the final examination and return it to National Headquarters for grading. Students passing the final examination will receive a certificate of graduation. Legionnaire and SAL graduates will receive a colorful blue and gold mortarboard cap patch. Auxiliary graduates will receive an attractive mortarboard pin and chain which they may attach to their Auxiliary pin.

Tuition

1 to 3 enrollments \$6.00 each
4 or more enrollments
(on one application) \$5.00 each

Six Monthly Lessons

- 1—History and Organization.
- 2—Service Divisions and Sections.
- 3—Americanism and Children & Youth Programs.
- 4—Veterans Affairs — Rehabilitation and Economic Programs.
- 5—Legislative Program and Public Relations.
- 6—National Security and Foreign Relations Programs.



Enrollment Instructions

1. Use the handy enrollment application form on this page. If you have more applications for enrollment, type or print the requested information for the additional enrollees on a plain sheet of paper and attach it to the application form.

2. Be sure to fill out the application form completely. It is important that you include the membership card number and post or unit number of each enrollee!

3. Make all remittances payable to **National Treasurer, The American Legion.**

4. Mail the application and remittance through your Department Headquarters or to:

**American Legion Extension Institute
P. O. Box 1055
Indianapolis, Indiana 46206**

5. Mail your enrollment application as promptly as possible. National Headquarters will accept enrollments in the thirty-third term of the Extension Institute through November 1, 1979.

To: American Legion Extension Institute
P. O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, Ind. 46206

APPLICATION — 34th TERM

Name _____
(Last) (First) (Middle)

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip Code _____ Post No. _____

Card No. _____ Unit No. _____

"Good Guy" Award Goes To Leon Jaworski

Leon Jaworski, who gained national prominence for his activity as director of the Office of Watergate Special Prosecution, will be the 1979 recipient of The American Legion Past Commander's "Good Guy" award to be presented during a luncheon in the Statesman Ballroom of the Sheraton-Houston Hotel, Tuesday, Aug. 21, in Houston, Texas.

The Legion's Past Commander's club is comprised of past Commanders at all levels of the organization, and meets annually at American Legion National Convention, with a normal attendance of nearly 500 people.

The "Good Guy" award was inaugurated in 1970, and all past recipients have been public figures, including representatives from the fields of journalism, sports, acting and others, among them being: Bob Considine, newsman; J. Raymond Bell, motion picture executive; William Conrad, actor; Vernon (Lefty) Gomez, baseball star; and Jackie Gleason, actor.

Senior partner in the law firm of Fulbright & Jaworski, he took his Bachelor of Laws degree from Baylor University and Master of Laws from George Washington University. He has received honorary degrees from 12 colleges and universities, and is extremely active in affairs of his chosen profession, having served as president of the American Bar Association, 1971-72.



Leon Jaworski

He also has given unselfishly of himself in civic and charitable endeavors including: service as president of the Houston Chamber of Commerce; Houston Rotary; Houston chapter, American Red Cross; trustee, Texas Medical Center; United Fund; Houston Symphony Society and many others, among the many qualifications he has for The American Legion Past Commanders' Club "Good Guy" award given annually to one "whose life is not too crowded to lend a helping hand to others."

Keep America green.

Some things about the Army never change. The getting up in the dark, the sun so hot you can taste it, the going to bed when you're too tired to sleep. Hard work, courage, and the pride in Army green — they haven't changed and never will.

But some things about the Army are brand-new, and maybe you should know about them. Quite simply, we're offering today's young people more opportunities than ever to do something positive for themselves and their Country. Skill training, for example, in any of hundreds of different specialties. A chance to start or continue their college education while still in the Army. More travel opportunities. Better pay. The option of enlisting now and taking up to a year off before reporting for duty. Most important, since the Army grows more sophisticated each year, we're offering unique new challenges to a young person's mind and maturity.

If we've made the Army sound better than ever, **that's because it is.** We want America's best young people to be our soldiers. We want to keep America green.

If you know any young people who'd be interested in us — and vice versa — tell them how to find out more. Just write to Army Opportunities, P.O. Box 1776, Mount Vernon, NY 10550. Or call **800-431-1234** toll free. In New York, call **800-942-1990**.

Join the people who've joined the Army.

Youth Leaders Attend Convention

BASEBALL



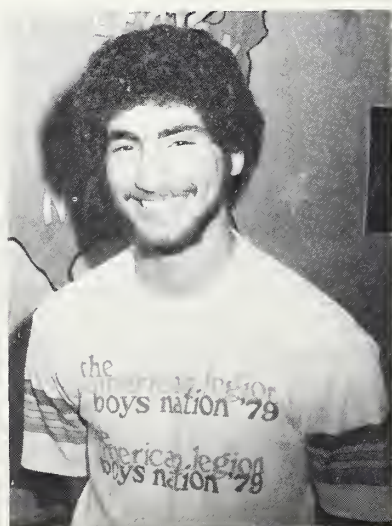
Ross Jones
Hialeah, Florida
Player of the Year.

BOY SCOUTS



David Gregory
Ciudad Satellite, Mexico
*Boy Scout
of the Year*

BOYS NATION



Frank J. DeSiena
Clifton Park, New York
Boys Nation President

ORATORICAL



Fernando Baell, Jr.
Lafayette Hill, Pennsylvania
*Winner, National High School
Oratorical Contest*

EVERY PENNY COUNTS



AMERICAN LEGION
child welfare
FOUNDATION, INC.

25th Birthday *1954 = 1979*

This year, the American Legion Child Welfare Foundation celebrates its 25th Birthday! For twenty-five years, members of The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary and the Eight and Forty have been hard at work supporting the Foundation which has as its two primary purposes, to add to the sum total of man's knowledge about children and youth through research and study and to help distribute information society already possesses about children and youth that it may be more adequately used. Help celebrate your Foundation's 25th Birthday by giving a special donation so the good work may go on for the children and youth of our nation! Remember — Your gifts are tax deductible!



"A FIGHTING CHANCE" is a movie (15 minutes-16mm) that tells the story of your American Legion Child Welfare Foundation at work and the worthy projects it has sponsored to give American youngsters a hand — **A Fighting Chance!** This film will be sent to you, on a free-loan basis, at your request from National Headquarters. For more details, please write the American Legion Child Welfare Foundation, Inc., P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206.

AMERICAN LEGION CHILD WELFARE FOUNDATION, INC.,
700 North Pennsylvania Street, P.O. Box 1055
Indianapolis, Indiana 46206

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN THE AMERICAN LEGION National Convention Corporation of Texas

Badges & Packets



Fred Zann
Co-Chairman

Badges & Packets



Curtis Paschal
Co-Chairman

Concessions



Lloyd H. Duty
Chairman

Contests



Richard P. Zimpfer
Chairman

Distinguished Guests



Capt. Lawrence Smith
Chairman

Entertainment Coupons



Homer Wine
Chairman

Equipment Procurement



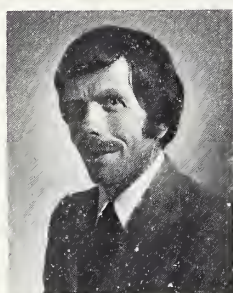
A. C. "Bill" Bailey
Chairman

Exhibits



Mary B. Anderson
Chairman

First Aid



John D. Howell
Chairman

Golf Tournament



Carl Renken
Chairman

Halls & Seating



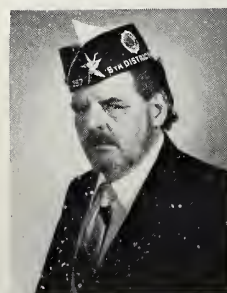
Boyd B. Rowland
Chairman

Housing



W. L. Oberlender
Chairman

Legal



Bill Conners
Chairman

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN THE AMERICAN LEGION

National Convention Corporation of Texas

**Memorial
Services**



Chaplain C. F. Pitts
Chairman

Parade



James Harmon
Co-Chairman

Parade



Herb Odell
Co-Chairman

**Post
Participation**



Thomas Griffith
Co-Chairman

**Post
Participation**



Henry Leake
Co-Chairman

**Post
Participation**



Wayne Perrin
Co-Chairman

Provost



Ben Denham
Chairman

**Public
Relations**



Mark Davis
Chairman

**Registration &
Information**



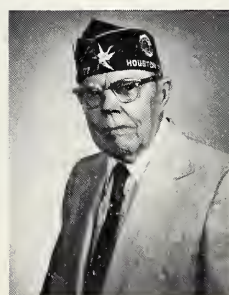
Allan Morreau
Co-Chairman

**Registration &
Information**



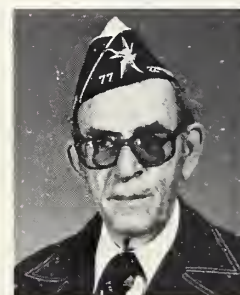
W. O. Bryan
Co-Chairman

Reunions



Eugene Silver
Chairman

**Ticket
Sales**



Al Moehring, Jr.
Chairman

**Tours &
Transportation**



Dan Weatherly
Chairman

**American Legion
Auxillary**



Mrs. Ione Kubby
Chairman

8 et 40



Mrs. Mildred Porter
Chairman

The American Legion Auxiliary

National Officers



MRS. EARL B. BIGALOW
National President



MRS. BERNARD F. KENNEDY
National Vice President



MRS. JACK
PISCIOTTA
*Vice President
Central Division*



MRS. ETHEL
HUGGARD
*Vice President
Eastern Division*



MRS. EARL
FRANKLIN, JR.
*Vice President
Northwestern Division*



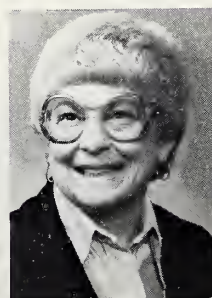
MRS. R. C.
BROWER
*Vice President
Southern Division*



MRS. CLIFFORD
LEE
*Vice President
Western Division*



MRS. F. C.
HALEY
National Chaplain



MRS. ADEN L.
OWEN
National Historian



MRS. MIRIAM
JUNGE
National Secretary



MRS. MARGARET
SAPPENFIELD
National Treasurer

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY FIFTY-NINTH ANNUAL NATIONAL CONVENTION 1979

Shamrock Hilton Hotel Houston, Texas

THEME: *"PRESERVE THE PAST . . . DEVELOP THE FUTURE"*

OFFICE ASSIGNMENTS

National Secretary	Belvedere A Room
National Treasurer	Nile Room
Public Relations	Normandy B Room
Program Coordinator	Belvedere B Room
National Convention Chairman	Board Room
National Communications Committee	Normandy A Room (August 20-22)
Exhibits Room	Hall of Exhibits
First Aid	Hall of Exhibits
Flag Registration	Check Room
Lost and Found	Board Room

Saturday, August 18, 1979

9 a.m.-11:30 a.m.	National Music Contest, Emerald Room
12 noon	National Officers, Past National Presidents, and National Chairmen's Luncheon; Astro Village, Mini Dome
3 p.m.-5 p.m.	Pre-Convention National Executive Committee Meeting, Emerald Room

Sunday, August 19, 1979

8 a.m.-8:30 a.m.	Nondenominational Church Service, Embassy Room
9 a.m.-5 p.m.	Pre-Convention Committee Meetings (see pages 53-54)
2 p.m.	Pages Rehearsal, Grand Ballroom
7 p.m.	National Convention Parade

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY FIFTY-NINTH ANNUAL NATIONAL CONVENTION 1979

Shamrock Hilton Hotel Pre-Convention Committee Meetings

9 a.m.-11 a.m.
Communications, Azalea Room
Credentials, Grove Room
Education, Camellia Room
Historians, Marco Polo Room
Legislative, Embassy Room
National Security, Castilian A/B/C Room
Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation, Emerald Room

11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Americanism, Embassy Room
Energy Conservation, Emerald Room
Foreign Relations, Azalea Room
Leadership Development, Camellia Room
Liaison with Child Welfare Foundation, Castilian A/B/C Room
Past Presidents Parley, Crystal Room
Permanent Organization, Marco Polo Room
Poppy, Grove Room

1 p.m.-3 p.m.

Cavalcade of Memories, Crystal Room
Chaplains, Castilian A/B/C Room
Community Service, Azalea Room
Girls State, Emerald Room
Junior Activities, Camellia Room
Membership, Embassy Room
Music, Grove Room
Rules, Marco Polo Room

3 p.m.-5 p.m.

Auxiliary Emergency Fund, Grove Room
Children and Youth, Emerald Room
Constitution and Bylaws, Marco Polo Room
Finance, Azalea Room
Parliamentary Workshop, Embassy Room
Publications, Castilian A/B/C Room
Resolutions, Camellia Room
Womens Forum on National Security, Crystal Room

**AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
FIFTY-NINTH ANNUAL NATIONAL CONVENTION
1979**

**Shamrock Hilton Hotel
Houston, Texas
Grand Ballroom
Monday, August 20, 1979**

*******OPENING SESSION*******

8:30 a.m.

MILITARY CONCERT

"Air Force Band of the West"
Captain Ray E. Toler, U.S.A.F.
Commander/Conductor

ANNOUNCEMENT OF PROCESSIONAL

Mrs. Maurice Kubby
National Convention Chairman

**CONVENTION PROCESSIONAL
ORDER OF PROCESSIONAL**

Department Colors
Double D's Drill Team
Milwaukie Post and Unit 180
Department of Oregon

Past National Presidents

Mrs. Robert Walbridge
Mrs. William H. Biester, Jr.
Mrs. Albin Charles Carlson
Mrs. Oscar W. Hahn
Mrs. James Morris
Mrs. Walter G. Craven
Mrs. Norton H. Pearl
Mrs. Norman L. Sheehe
Mrs. E. A. Campbell
Mrs. Harold S. Burdett

Mrs. J. Pat Kelly
Mrs. Alexander H. Gray
Mrs. Henry Ahnemiller
Mrs. J. Howard McKay
Mrs. O. L. Koger
Mrs. L. D. Johnson
Mrs. Walter Wild Andrews
Mrs. Opal Glynn Butler
Mrs. A. J. Ryan, Sr.
Mrs. Vernon H. Randall

Mrs. Arthur B. Hanell
Mrs. H. Milton Davidson
Mrs. Charles C. Shaw
Mrs. Robert L. Parker
Mrs. T. G. Chilton
Mrs. B. M. Jarrett
Mrs. Maurice Kubby
Mrs. Alan M. Schanel
Mrs. Paul Brown
Mrs. Alvin Moltzen

ORDER OF PROCESSIONAL continued:

INTRODUCTION OF NATIONAL PRESIDENT

CALL TO ORDER

PRESENTATION OF THE COLORS

INVOCATION

MOMENT OF SILENCE

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

PREAMBLE TO THE CONSTITUTION

RETIREMENT OF COLORS

WELCOME

National Officers
National Colors
National President, Escorted by
her husband, Earl B. Bigalow

Mrs. Maurice Kubby
National Convention Chairman

Mrs. Earl B. Bigalow
National President

Joint Armed Forces Color Guard

Mrs. F. C. Haley
National Chaplain

Announced by Mrs. Helen Adams
National Americanism Chairman

Sung by Ms. Dorothy Lohner

Led by Mrs. Preston Holmes
National Music Chairman

Led by Mrs. H. B. Behrend
National Constitution and Bylaws Chairman

Joint Armed Forces Color Guard

Mrs. Earl B. Bigalow
National President

INTRODUCTIONS AND GREETINGS

THE AMERICAN LEGION

Mr. John M. Carey, *National Commander*
Mr. Frank Momsen, *National Adjutant*
Mr. Jack Tancred
1979 Convention Corporation President

THE STATE OF TEXAS

The Honorable William P. Clements
Governor of Texas

THE CITY OF HOUSTON

The Honorable Jim McConn
Mayor of Houston

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

Mrs. Frank W. Adamson
President, Department of Texas
Mrs. Maurice Kubby
National Convention Chairman

GREETINGS OF THE NATIONAL OFFICERS

Mrs. Bernard F. Kennedy
National Vice President

Division National Vice Presidents

Mrs. Clifford Lee, *Western*
Mrs. Jack Pisciotta, *Central*
Mrs. Ethel Huggard, *Eastern*
Mrs. Earl Franklin, Jr., *Northwestern*
Mrs. R. C. Brower, *Southern*

Mrs. F. C. Haley, *National Chaplain*
Mrs. Aden L. Owen, *National Historian*
Mrs. Miriam Junge, *National Secretary*
Mrs. Peggy Sappenfield, *National Treasurer*
Mrs. Arthur B. Hanell, *National Parliamentarian*

GREETINGS FROM THE PAST NATIONAL PRESIDENTS

Mrs. Alvin Moltzen
Junior Past National President

INTRODUCTION OF CONVENTION PAGES

Mrs. John Adams, *Chairman of Pages*
Mrs. Carl L. Flack, Jr., *Vice Chairman of Pages*

Mrs. Jack George, *Personal Page*
Mrs. Peter Moskwa, *Personal Page*
Mrs. Melba Gillum, *Personal Page*
Mrs. S. G. Nesbitt, Jr., *Personal Page*
Mrs. Donald L. Carlson, *Personal Page*

INTRODUCTION OF DISTINGUISHED GUEST COMMITTEE

Mrs. Walter Wild Andrews, *Chairman*
Mrs. Alexander H. Gray, *Vice Chairman*
Mrs. Paul Brown, *Member*
Mrs. Robert L. Parker, *Member*

ADDRESS

Mr. Steve Ritchie
Special Assistant to the President
Adolph Coors Company

"America's Critical Choice"

REPORT OF CONVENTION COMMITTEES

CREDENTIALS

Mrs. Jack Plato, *Chairman*

RULES

Mrs. B. M. Jarrett, *Chairman*

PERMANENT ORGANIZATION

Mrs. Anthony D'Amico, *Chairman*

Recess — 12 noon-1:30 p.m.

MONDAY, AUGUST 20, 1979

1:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Earl B. Bigalow
National President

PRESENTATION OF WINNERS OF MUSIC CONTEST

Mrs. Preston Holmes
National Music Chairman

RECOGNITION OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

**NATIONAL COMMITTEE REPORTS
WHAT HAVE THEY SAID ABOUT US?**

FOREIGN RELATIONS
COMMUNICATIONS
PUBLICATIONS
LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT
ENERGY CONSERVATION

Mrs. Frank Yasensky, *Chairman*
Mrs. Edward Yankovich, *Chairman*
Mrs. Frank Martin, *Chairman*
Mrs. James E. Starr, *Chairman*
Mrs. George Norby, *Chairman*

Recess — 3:30 p.m.

DIVISIONAL CAUCUSES

3:45 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

Central Division, Grand Ballroom
Northwestern Division, Embassy Room

Eastern Division, Marco Polo Room
Southern Division, Emerald Room
Western Division, Cabaret Room

RECEPTION FOR CANDIDATE FOR NATIONAL PRESIDENT

5-7 p.m.

Suite 1669, Shamrock Hilton Hotel

**RECEPTION FOR CANDIDATES FOR NATIONAL OFFICES
(other than the National President)**

7 p.m.-10 p.m.
Embassy Room

TUESDAY, AUGUST 21, 1979

8:15 a.m.-8:30 a.m. — Organ Recital

8:30 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Earl B. Bigalow
National President

INVOCATION

Mrs. F. C. Haley
National Chaplain

**PRESENTATION OF 1978-1979 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENTS
NATIONAL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

IT'S TIME TO MAKE AN EVALUATION

AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND
CAVALCADE OF MEMORIES
PAST PRESIDENTS PARLEY
NATIONAL HISTORIAN
CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

Mrs. Dan Herrin, *Chairman*
Mrs. Charles C. Shaw, *Chairman*
Mrs. H. Milton Davidson, *Chairman*
Mrs. Aden L. Owen
Mrs. H. B. Behrend, *Chairman*

NOMINATION OF NATIONAL OFFICERS 1979-1980

Recess — 10:45 a.m.

**JOINT SESSION WITH THE AMERICAN LEGION
Sam Houston Coliseum**

11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

2 p.m.-2:15 p.m. — Organ Recital

2:15 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Earl B. Bigalow
National President

**REPORT OF THE
EIGHT AND FORTY**

Mrs. Treva Reimink
Le Chapeau National

GOLDEN PRESS AND GOLDEN MIKE AWARDS

**NATIONAL COMMITTEE REPORTS
DID WE DEVELOP THE FUTURE FOR OUR YOUTH?**

AMERICANISM

Mrs. Helen Adams, *Chairman*

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Mrs. John J. Roethel, *Chairman*

LIAISON WITH CHILD WELFARE FOUNDATION

Mrs. A. J. Ryan, Sr., *Chairman*

JUNIOR ACTIVITIES

Mrs. Robert Sonne, *Chairman*

GIRLS STATE

Mrs. Joseph A. Nuth, Jr., *Chairman*

INTRODUCTION AND GREETING

1979 Girls Nation President

WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED?

EDUCATION

Mrs. John Boam, *Chairman*

NATIONAL CHAPLAIN

Mrs. F. C. Haley

MUSIC

Mrs. Preston Holmes, *Chairman*

MEMORIAL SERVICE

Conducted by Mrs. F. C. Haley
National Chaplain

TRIBUTE TO:

Mrs. Mark W. Murrill, *Past National President*

by

Mrs. Norton H. Pearl, *Past National President*

Recess — 4:45 p.m.

NATIONAL COMMANDER'S BANQUET

7:30 p.m.

Astro Village Hotel Ballroom

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 22, 1979

8:15 a.m.-8:30 a.m. — Organ Recital

8:30 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Earl B. Bigalow
National President

INVOCATION

Mrs. F. C. Haley
National Chaplain

REPORT OF THE NATIONAL PRESIDENT

Mrs. Earl B. Bigalow
National President

**NATIONAL COMMITTEE REPORTS
HOW SECURE ARE WE?**

LEGISLATIVE

NATIONAL SECURITY

WOMEN'S FORUM ON NATIONAL SECURITY

MEMBERSHIP

Mrs. Thomas Gear, *Chairman*

Mrs. Robert Melgard, *Chairman*

Mrs. Paul Brown, *Chairman*

Mrs. Ted Galka, *Chairman*

PRESENTATION OF 1978-1979 GOAL DEPARTMENT PRESIDENTS

ELECTION OF NATIONAL OFFICERS

INTRODUCTION OF CONVENTION COMMITTEES

Recess — 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

1 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Earl B. Bigalow
National President

PANEL DISCUSSION

Moderator: Mr. Donald D. Hildebrand
Chairman, Military Affairs Committee
The American Legion

Participants:

Commander Richard W. Hunter, USN

Colonel Jack D. Kaufman,
Mobilization Readiness Division
Manager, Selective Service System

Commander Charles Plumb, USNR (POW)

Colonel John P. Sheffey,
Executive Vice President,
National Association for
Uniformed Services



The education and scholarship program of the National Americanism Commission and Division has always been an important part of The American Legion's Americanism programs. Although a cooperative effort with educational professionals through the years, the first National Conference on Education for American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary workers in the education program was conducted at National Headquarters, September 15-17, 1978. Above is a group photo of the conferees.

THE HOUSTON HOTEL AMERICA KNOWS BEST

An in-town resort hotel, the Shamrock Hilton offers its guests an exciting variety of recreational opportunities. Tennis and swimming. Theatre and dining. And minutes away, the world-famous Astrodome and the Texas Medical Center.

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The Shamrock Hilton

6900 Main at Holcombe Houston, Texas 77030 (713) 668-9211

**NATIONAL COMMITTEE REPORTS
HOW WELL DID WE SERVE OTHERS?**

VETERANS AFFAIRS AND REHABILITATION

Mrs. Lyle Seymour, *Chairman*

POPPY

Mrs. Walter Stolte, *Chairman*

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Mrs. Jack Smith, *Chairman*

FINANCE

Mrs. Alan M. Schanel, *Chairman*

REPORT OF THE RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

Mrs. John Acklin, *Chairman*

Mrs. Marvin Nold, *Vice Chairman*

Mrs. David Johnson, *Member*

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

RETIREMENT OF DEPARTMENT COLORS

Recess — 4 p.m.

STATES DINNER

8 p.m.

Grand Ballroom

THURSDAY, AUGUST 23, 1979

8:30 a.m.

INSTALLATION OF NATIONAL OFFICERS 1979-1980

Mrs. Harold S. Burdett, *Past National President*

Installing Officer

PRESENTATION OF COLORS TO RETIRING NATIONAL PRESIDENT

Mrs. Henry Ahnemiller, *Past National President*

PRESENTATION OF PIN AND RIBBON TO

RETIRING NATIONAL PRESIDENT

Mrs. Paul Brown, *Past National President*

RETIREMENT OF THE NATIONAL COLORS

10:30 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT OF THE CONVENTION

Mrs. Earl Bigalow, *Retiring National President*

1:30 p.m.

POST-CONVENTION NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Cabaret Room

NATIONAL CONVENTION COMMITTEES

NATIONAL CONVENTION CHAIRMAN

Mrs. Maurice Kubby

NATIONAL CONVENTION VICE CHAIRMAN

Miss Frances Goff

NATIONAL CONVENTION SECRETARY

Mrs. Jack Whitson

COMMUNICATIONS

Mrs. John Russom, *Chairman*

Mrs. John Morris, *Vice Chairman*

COURTESIES

Mrs. Harvey Holcomb, *Chairman*

Mrs. Maggie Davis, *Vice Chairman*

DISTINGUISHED GUESTS

Mrs. Frank Bewley, *Chairman*
Mrs. Lewis Routon, *Vice Chairman*

DIVISIONAL CAUCUSES

Mrs. B. B. Hester, *Chairman*
Mrs. Walter Drescher, *Vice Chairman*

EIGHT AND FORTY

Mrs. Mildred Porter, *Chairman*
Mrs. Joe Porow, *Vice Chairman*

FIRST AID

Mrs. Charles Geisenberg, *Chairman*
Mrs. Bill Hardin, *Vice Chairman*

FLAG REGISTRATION

Mrs. Charles Inglis, *Chairman*
Mrs. Jack Ivie, *Vice Chairman*

FLOWERS AND CORSAGES

Mrs. Robert Senter, *Chairman*
Mrs. Larry Lahaie, *Vice Chairman*

HALL OF EXHIBITS

Mrs. Ells Schmid, *Chairman*
Mrs. V. C. Cooper, *Vice Chairman*

HALLS AND SEATING

Mrs. Fred Zann, *Chairman*
Mrs. Les Scott, *Vice Chairman*

HISTORY DISPLAY

Mrs. Jack Yocum, *Chairman*
Mrs. William Davison, *Vice Chairman*

HOSPITALITY

Mrs. Wilbert Foerster, *Chairman*
Mrs. Elroy Peters, *Vice Chairman*

INFORMATION

Mrs. Margaret Brukner, *Chairman*
Mrs. Ida Bell Murphy, *Vice Chairman*

LOST AND FOUND

Mrs. Kathryn Buck, *Chairman*
Mrs. Naomi Norton, *Vice Chairman*

MUSIC CONTESTS

Mrs. Richard Philebar, *Chairman*
Mrs. Clay Ogle, *Vice Chairman*

NATIONAL LUNCHEON — PAST NATIONAL PRESIDENTS, OFFICERS, AND CHAIRMEN

Mrs. Joe Matthews, *Chairman*
Mrs. Clayton Mann, *Vice Chairman*

NATIONAL CAMPAIGN RECEPTIONS

Mrs. Frank Headrick, *Chairman*
Miss Elizabeth Marie Headrick,
Vice Chairman

PAGES

Mrs. Carl Flack, Jr., *Chairman*
Mrs. Bud Ott, *Vice Chairman*

POPPY DISPLAY/CONTESTS

Mrs. James Moreau, *Chairman*
Mrs. Robert Buchanan, *Vice Chairman*

PRAYER BOOK DISPLAYS

Mrs. Gus Satterfield, *Chairman*
Mrs. Drew Evans, *Vice Chairman*

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Mrs. Myra Hester, *Chairman*
Mrs. James Mason, *Vice Chairman*

REGISTRATION

Mrs. W. A. Geisenberg, *Chairman*
Mrs. William L. Green, *Vice Chairman*

STAGE

Mrs. Louis Nicholson, *Chairman*
Mrs. Florence Moore, *Vice Chairman*

STATES DINNER AND DECORATIONS

Mrs. J. W. Douglas, *Chairman*
Mrs. Joe Porow, *Vice Chairman*

TRANSPORTATION

Mrs. W. O. Bryan, *Chairman*
Mrs. Richard Ashworth, *Vice Chairman*



The Shamrock Hilton Hotel will serve as Headquarters hotel for the American Legion Auxiliary, which will be convening in Houston simultaneously with the National Convention of The American Legion, Aug. 17-23. All sessions of the Auxiliary's National Convention will be conducted at the Shamrock Hilton. (ALNS Photo)

Houston Has Something For Everyone It Seems

You'll want to remember when you come to Houston, Texas, for the 61st Annual National Convention, August 21-23, 1979, that the ocean with all of its delights is only a short trip down the Gulf Freeway. Houston itself is so metropolitan, it offers virtually every type of recreational advantage. One of the nicest is its proximity to historic Galveston Island and such attractions as Sea-Arama Marineworld.

The only multi-million dollar marine attraction between the East and West coasts, Sea-Arama is pure entertainment. Everyone enjoys the great shows and attractions at Sea-Arama with Mamuk The Killer Whale (one of the few in captivity), Nemo The Flying Whale, the Marineworld Revue featuring porpoises, sea lions, penguins, Nemo and many surprises, their Dive to the Deep Show, Pirates' Lost Island Ski Adventure which is a comedy ski show offered daily during the summer months including August, their Alligator Wrestling Show, The Scuba Show, the Octopus Grotto and many, many more. Sea-Arama offers you over four hours of such fun any day you happen to arrive.

Legionnaires will especially like the warmth and friendliness of Sea-Arama Marineworld's young staff. Most of their people are hired from the ranks of colleges and high schools in the area and are trained to perform to perfection. The Marineworld site is kept immaculately clean and is beautifully landscaped.

Galveston's famous West Beach where Sea-Arama Marine world is located may be reached easily via Interstate 45, fondly called the Gulf Freeway since it literally ends at the Gulf of Mexico. When you see the water, turn to your right and go west to reach Sea-Arama park. West Beach is surrounded by the blue waters of the Gulf of Mexico and of Galveston Bay, and the salt air is truly invigorating. It will be warm, but Sea-Arama Marineworld is the most air-conditioned marine park in the world. It has a covered stadium for your comfort while viewing the shows. If you plan to walk barefoot in the sand, however, you may want sunglasses and the ladies may want a scarf if the off-shore breezes are blowing. There is a large, free parking area.

The park is beautiful at night, but only stays open from 10 a.m. until 7 p.m. daily. There is a gift shop named, of course, the Treasure Chest (you'll remember Jean Lafitte paid this area a visit some years ago). Their souvenirs are interesting, so plan to browse. The Pirate's Nook is a highlight of their food facilities and it is surrounded by lush tropical gardens. Be sure to remember to bring your camera, but in case you run out of film, the Shutter Shop has complete film supplies.

One moderate admission price entitles you to see all of the shows and attractions at Sea-Arama Marineworld.

ENJOY HOUSTON TAKE A TOUR USE YOUR DISCOUNT COUPONS

The American Legion National Emblem Sales Locations

HYATT REGENCY HOTEL

THURSDAY, AUGUST 17 THROUGH
THURSDAY, AUGUST 23
Open: 9:00 A.M. Daily

SHAMROCK HILTON HOTEL

FRIDAY, AUGUST 17 THROUGH
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 22
Open: 9:00 A.M. Daily

SAM HOUSTON COLISEUM

TUESDAY, AUGUST 21 THROUGH
THURSDAY, AUGUST 23
Open Daily During Sessions

All locations will have a complete stock of American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary merchandise. Among the many items are shirts, ties, cap insignia, official jewelry, and gift items. A supply of CAPS lettered for all states will be available at the HYATT REGENCY DISPLAY ONLY.

American Legion — Auxiliary Regional Leadership Conferences Dates & Sites

<u>Region No.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Site</u>	<u>Departments Assigned</u>
1	Sept. 14-16	Manchester, N.H.	Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont.
2	Oct. 5-7	Baltimore, Md.	Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Virginia.
3	Sept. 7-9	Atlanta, Ga.	Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee.
4	Oct. 5-7	Baton Rouge, La.	Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma and Texas.
5	Sept. 28-30	Indianapolis, Ind.	Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Missouri, Ohio and Wisconsin.
6	Sept. 14-16	Sioux Falls, S.D.	Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota and South Dakota.
7	Sept. 28-30	Las Vegas, Nev.	Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Nevada, New Mexico and Utah.
8	Sept. 7-9	Portland, Ore.	Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington and Wyoming.

BE BETTER INFORMED — ATTEND THE CONFERENCE IN YOUR REGION

Ready, able & aware...

The United States
Air Force
Salutes



**The ★ 61st National Convention of
THE AMERICAN LEGION ★**

Texas Medical Center Is Among World's Best

Veterans Hospital in Houston, Texas is located just across from the famous Texas Medical Center which is one of the most incredible health care complexes in the world. Thirty-five years ago, this area south of downtown Houston was just a pasture. Now nearly 2 million people per year are patients in the Center's hospitals.

Built in large part with the same cotton and oil money that turned a cattle town into this center of world commerce, the Texas Medical Center draws its patients from all 50 states and many foreign nations. Its hospitals can summon interpreters in 15 languages. Its buildings and grounds represent an investment of over \$500 million. In addition to its operating budget, \$55 million is spent annually on research — in quest of everything from an artificial heart to an understanding of how rats meet in the desert and transmit disease.

Each institution in the Texas Medical Center is autonomous, but cooperative with the others on this 210-acre site. The Methodist Hospital, primary teaching institution for Baylor College of Medicine, recently opened its unique Neurosensory Center, a three-tower building devoted exclusively to neurology. All but \$1 million which was a federal grant came from private donations — totaling more

than \$34 million. But then, it was a private donation of the \$20 million Monroe D. Anderson estate that provided the land and start-up grants for the Texas Medical Center in the early 1940's. The tradition established by that grant continues today.



The American Legion's legislative program services a multitude of concerns of all of the Legion's program divisions and pictured here is one of the places where some of these things are made to happen and a lot of the people who help to make them happen. This scene is the House Chamber where President Carter is delivering his State of the Union message to the Congress, members of the cabinet and other government officials.

THE NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE NEWS BULLETIN IS THE BEST SOURCE OF INFORMATION ON THE AMERICAN LEGION LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM. TO RECEIVE A YEAR'S SUBSCRIPTION TO THE NEWS BULLETIN, USE THE ORDER BLANK BELOW AND BECOME A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE TEAM.

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SALON NATIONAL LA BOUTIQUE DES HUIT CHAPEAUX ET QUARANTE FEMMES 58TH ANNUAL LA MARCHE NATIONALE

Shamrock Hilton
Houston, Texas

August 23, 24 and 25, 1979

OFFICIAL PROGRAM

NATIONAL OFFICERS



Mrs. Herman E. Reimink
Le Chapeau National



Mrs. James C. Malone
La Secretaire-Caissiere Nationale

REGISTRATION

SHAMROCK HILTON

Saturday, August 18, 1979 — Headquarters Suite, Salon National..... 2:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M.
Thursday, August 23, 1979 — Lobby North 1:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M.
Friday, August 24, 1979 — Lobby North..... 8:00 A.M. to 9:30 A.M.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 23, 1979

PRE-MARCHE POUVOIR — Castilian ABC 2:30 P.M. to 4:30 P.M.

PRE-MARCHE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

CHILDREN & YOUTH

and NATIONAL JEWISH HOSPITAL LIAISON

Mrs. Osby Martin &

Mrs. John Hadden, *Chairmen*

7:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M. — Castilian ABC

CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS

Mrs. Lucille Ryan, *Chairman*

6:30 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. — Grove Room

CREDENTIALS

Mrs. Frederic Hemphill, *Chairman*

8:00 P.M. to 8:30 P.M. — Venetian Room

HANDBOOK REVIEW

Mrs. Hy Wayne, *Chairman*

8:00 P.M. to 9:30 P.M. — Grove Room

L'ARCHIVISTE

Mrs. Robert Morrow, *L'Archiviste Nationale*

7:30 P.M. to 8:30 P.M. — Walnut Room

L'AUMONIER

Mrs. Ronald Aichholz, *L'Aumonier National*

6:30 P.M. to 7:30 P.M. — Walnut Room

PARTNERSHIP

Mrs. Wm. J. Staley, *Chairman*

8:30 P.M. to 9:30 P.M. — Embassy Room

PERMANENT ORGANIZATION

Mrs. Allan Cooper, *Chairman*

6:30 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. — Castilian ABC

RESOLUTIONS

Mrs. Keith Mishler, *Chairman*

8:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M. — Crystal Room

RITUALS AND EMBLEMS

Mrs. Roy E. Russell, *Chairman*

6:30 P.M. to 7:30 P.M. — Venetian Room

RULES AND ORDER

Mrs. Melvin Jeanne, *Chairman*

7:30 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. — Venetian Room

SCHOLARSHIP

Mrs. Harry Russell, *Chairman*

6:30 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. — Embassy Room

TROPHIES AND AWARDS

Mrs. Cecil C. Sorrell, *Chairman*

7:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. — Crystal Room

DISPLAYS AND EMBLEM SALES

Headquarters Suite

Thursday, August 23, 1979 2:30 P.M. to 9:30 P.M.
Friday, August 24, 1979 10:30 A.M. to 1:30 P.M.
4:30 P.M. to 7:30 P.M.

MEET THE CANDIDATES RECEPTION

Marco Polo Room — 10:00 P.M.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 24, 1979

DIVISIONAL BREAKFASTS AND CAUCUSES — 8:30 A.M.

Eastern Division Castilian ABC Room
Central Division Marco Polo Room
Southern Division Crystal Room
Northwestern Division Venetian Room
Western Division Grove Room

REHEARSAL LES MARECHALS AND PAGES

Mrs. Albert Ybarra, La Concierge National,
Mrs. Valecia Deas, Chairman of Pages and
Distinguished Guest Committee
Emerald Ballroom — 11:00 A.M.

LA MARCHE NATIONALE

Emerald Ballroom

Opening Session — 1:30 P.M. Friday, August 24, 1979

PROCESSIONAL OF NATIONAL OFFICERS, CHAPEAUX NATIONAUX PASSES AND DISTINGUISHED GUESTS

Mrs. Mildred Porter
La Marche Chairman Presiding

CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Herman E. Reimink,
Le Chapeau National

INVOCATION

Mrs. Ronald Aichholz,
L'Aumonier National

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

Led by Mrs. Albert Ybarra
La Concierge National

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

Assembly
Mrs. Clay Ogle,
La Musicienne

FLANDERS FIELD

Mrs. Claude Dodd
Le Divisional Demi Chapeau National,
Southern Division

AMERICA'S ANSWER

Mrs. Mary Figenbaum
Le Divisional Demi Chapeau National,
Northwestern Division

ROLL CALL

Mrs. James C. Malone,
La Secretaire-Caissiere Nationale

READING OF CALL TO 1979 MARCHE NATIONALE

REPORT OF THE MINUTES COMMITTEE FOR THE 1978 MARCHE NATIONALE

Miss Dolly Julian, *Chairman*

GREETINGS:

Mrs. Mildred Porter, *Chairman*,
1979 La Marche National
Mrs. Maurice Kubby, National Convention
Chairman, American Legion Auxiliary
The Honorable Bill Clements,
Governor of Texas
The Honorable Jim McConn,
Mayor of Houston
Mr. George Skelly, Department Commander
of Texas, The American Legion
Mrs. Frank W. Adamson, Department President
of Texas, American Legion Auxiliary
Mrs. Mildred Porter, Le Chapeau,
Departemental of Texas
Mr. Jack W. Flynt, President, 1979 Convention
Corporation, The American Legion

**INTRODUCTION OF CHAPEAUX
NATIONAUX PASSES:**

Mrs. Harry Kehm	Mrs. Joseph M. Voit
Mrs. Walter Davol	Mrs. A. L. LaVaque
Mrs. Albert Pico	Mrs. William J. McKinley
Mrs. Robert Haws	Mrs. Premo O. Kelly
Mrs. Dee P. Davis	Mrs. James C. Gleason
Mrs. Valentine Delles	Mrs. Jerome E. Allen
Mrs. Edsell Swanner	Mrs. James A. DeForce
Mrs. D. A. Craig	Mrs. James W. Collins
Mrs. Herman Edwards	Miss Dorothy M. Dolle
Mrs. Ottelia Aaron	Mrs. Lucien J. Landry
Mrs. Ray A. Stratton	Mrs. Michael Suvak
Mrs. E. Harvey Keefe	Mrs. Lawrence D. Hunt, Sr.
Mrs. Charles E. Titlow, Sr.	Mrs. Sherman Lansdale
Mrs. James Michelet	Mrs. Charles D. Smith
Mrs. C. P. Andrew	Miss Julia Mullan

RESPONSE

Miss Julia Mullan,
Immediate Chapeau National Passe

REPORT OF SPECIAL MARCHE COMMITTEES:

Rules and Order — Mrs. Melvin Jeanne,
Chairman

SECOND SESSION OF LA MARCHE

Friday, August 24, 1979 — 7:30 P.M.

INVOCATION

Mrs. Ronald Aichholz

PRESENTATION OF LOCAL MARCHE COMMITTEE

Mrs. Mildred Porter, *Chairman*

GREETINGS:

Mr. John (Jack) Carey, National Commander,
The American Legion
Mrs. Earl B. Bigalow, National President,
The American Legion Auxiliary
Mrs. Bernard Kennedy, National Vice President,
American Legion Auxiliary
Mrs. Miriam Junge, National Secretary,
American Legion Auxiliary
Mrs. Margaret Sappenfield, National Treasurer,
American Legion Auxiliary

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE AND

INTRODUCTION OF AREA CHAIRMEN:

Children and Youth, Mrs. Osby Martin
National Jewish Hospital Liaison, Mrs. John Hadden

Permanent Organization — Mrs. Allan Cooper,
Chairman

**REPORT OF LES DIVISIONAL DEMI CHAPEAUX
NATIONAL AND INTRODUCTION OF LES
CHAPEAUX DEPARTEMENTAUX**

Mrs. Helene Silvay Mardu, Eastern Division
Mrs. Robert Bailey, Central Division
Mrs. Claude Dodd, Southern Division
Mrs. Lorenza Cushman, Western Division
Mrs. Mary Figenbaum, Northwestern Division

REPORT OF 1978-1979 NATIONAL OFFICERS

Mrs. Herman E. Reimink, Le Chapeau National
Mrs. Elmer Martin, Le Demi Chapeau National
Mrs. James C. Malone, La Secretaire-Caissiere
Nationale
Mrs. E. Harvey Keefe, L'Avocate Nationale
Mrs. Robert Morrow, L'Archiviste Nationale
Mrs. Albert Ybarra, La Concierge Nationale
Mrs. James W. Collins, The Hat Box Editor

**NOMINATION OF NATIONAL OFFICERS FOR
1979-1980**

Greetings: Mr. Earl D. Franklin, Jr.,
National Chairman Children and Youth,
The American Legion
Mrs. John J. Roethel, National Chairman,
Children and Youth, The American
Legion Auxiliary
Constitution and Bylaws, Mrs. Lucille Ryan
Finance, Mrs. George Gould
Partnership, Mrs. Wm. J. Staley, Sr.
Nurses Scholarship, Mrs. Harry Russell
Ritual and Emblems, Mrs. Roy E. Russell
Trophies and Awards, Mrs. Cecil C. Sorrell

**REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE
ON HANDBOOK**

Mrs. Hy Wayne

REPORT OF NATIONAL PUBLICITY CHAIRMAN

Mrs. Roy Brown

**REPORT OF NATIONAL MEMORY
BOOK CHAIRMAN**

Mrs. Polly Kempton

THIRD SESSION OF LA MARCHE

Saturday, August 25, 1979 — 8:30 A.M.

"IN MEMORIAM" Mrs. Ronald Aichholz, Presiding

MEMORIAL SERVICE

Prelude Mrs. Clay Ogle, Musicienne
Processional Chapeaux Nationaux Passes
Prayer Mrs. Ronald Aichholz, L'Aumonier National

Solo — "In The Garden" Mrs. T. N. Leervig
Tribute to All Deceased Partners
Mrs. Herman E. Reimink, Le Chapeau National

Tribute to All Deceased Partners of 1978-1979

Les Divisional Demi Chapeau Nationaux
Eastern Division Mrs. Helene Silvary Mardu
Central Division Mrs. Robert Bailey
Southern Division Mrs. Claude Dodd
Northwestern Division Mrs. Mary Figenbaum
Western Division Mrs. Lorenza O. Cushman

Solo — "The Lord's Prayer" Mrs. T. N. Leervig

Benediction Mrs. Ronald Aichholz, L'Aumonier National

Recessional Mrs. Clay Ogle, Musicienne

REPORT OF L'AUMONIER NATIONAL

Mrs. Ronald Aichholz

REPORT OF SPECIAL MARCHE COMMITTEES

Credentials, Mrs. Frederic Hemphill

Registration, Mrs. Mary Defino

Resolutions, Mrs. Keith Mishler

ELECTION OF NATIONAL OFFICERS

FOR 1979-1980

ADDRESS:

PRESENTATION OF LES MARECHALS

Mrs. Bernice Driver and

Mrs. Edward Zimmer

PRESENTATION OF NATIONAL PAGES

Mrs. Valecia Deas, Chairman

Mrs. Frank Martin

Mrs. Jesse Dickens

Mrs. Jacqueline La Rochelle

Mrs. Mary L. Husby

Mrs. Robert Crownover

Mrs. Dorothy DePersis

Mrs. Opal Eskridge

Mrs. Richard P. Rollins

PRESENTATION OF PERSONAL PAGES

To Le Chapeau National, Mrs. Walter Bonham
and Mrs. Polly Kempton

To La Secretaire-Caissiere Nationale,
Mrs. G. C. Bartholomew

RATIFICATION OF ELECTION OF LES DIVISIONAL DEMI CHAPEAUX NATIONAUX

REPORT OF JUDGE OF ELECTION

Mrs. Homer Sowers

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

PRESENTATION OF NEWLY ELECTED OFFICERS FOR 1979-1980

POST MARCHE POUVOIR

Saturday, August 25, 1979

Immediately following Morning Session Castilian ABC

LA MARCHE NATIONALE BANQUET

Saturday, August 25, 1979

Emerald Ballroom, Shamrock Hilton

7:00 P.M.

PROCESSIONAL OF GUESTS

Mrs. Joe Porow, Banquet Chairman

INVOCATION

Mrs. Ronald Aichholz, L'Aumonier National

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Mrs. Albert Ybarra,

La Concierge Nationale

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

The Assembly

WELCOME

Mrs. Mildred Porter,

La Marche Chairman

RESPONSE

Mrs. Elmer Martin,

Le Demi Chapeau National

ENTERTAINMENT

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS FOR 1979-1980

PRESENTATION OF LE CHAPEAU NATIONAL PASSE PIN

RETIREMENT OF COLORS

ADJOURNMENT

SPECIAL MARCHE COMMITTEES

DISTINGUISHED GUESTS

Mrs. Michael Suvak, Florida, *Chairman*

Mrs. A. L. LaVaque, California

Miss Dorothy Dolle, Kentucky

Mrs. Lucien J. Landry, Louisiana

Mrs. Wm. McKinley, Massachusetts

Miss Julia Mullan, Massachusetts

Mrs. Lawrence D. Hunt, Michigan

Mrs. Joseph M. Voit, New York

Mrs. Herman Edwards, Oregon

Mrs. Charles D. Smith, Pennsylvania

Mrs. C. P. Andrews, Virginia

CREDENTIALS

Mrs. Frederic Hemphill, Wyoming, *Chairman*

Mrs. Katherine Kivic, Connecticut

Mrs. Blanche Mack, Missouri

RULES AND ORDER

Mrs. Melvin Jeanne, Louisiana, *Chairman*
Mrs. Norman Stewart, Massachusetts
Mrs. Helena Bergeran, Texas

RESOLUTIONS

Mrs. Keith Mishler, Michigan, *Chairman*
Mrs. Donald Conn, Indiana
Mrs. Duane Wilson, Washington

PERMANENT ORGANIZATION

Mrs. Allan Cooper, Missouri, *Chairman*
Mrs. Minnie O. Pretty, Wyoming
Mrs. J. Brown Whitten, Mississippi

REGISTRATION

Mrs. Mary Defino, Pennsylvania, *Chairman*
Mrs. James Kaanpau, Hawaii
Mrs. Iola Stolley, Oregon

LES MARECHALS

Mrs. Edward Zimmer, Illinois
Mrs. Bernice Driver, California

NATIONAL PAGES

Mrs. Valecia Deas, Florida, *Chairman*
Mrs. Frank Martin, Alaska
Mrs. Jesse Dickens, Kansas

Mrs. Jacqueline La Rochelle, Massachusetts
Mrs. Mary L. Husby, Nevada
Mrs. Robert Crownover, New Mexico
Mrs. Dorothy DePersis, New York
Mrs. Opal Eskridge, Oklahoma
Mrs. Richard P. Rollins, Virginia

PERSONAL PAGES TO LE CHAPEAU NATIONAL

Mrs. Walter Bonham, Oklahoma
Mrs. Polly Kempton, Oklahoma

PERSONAL PAGE TO LA SECRETAIRE-CAISSIERE NATIONALE

Mrs. G. C. Bartholomew, Florida

JUDGE OF ELECTION

Mrs. Homer Sowers, Indiana

TELLERS

Mrs. Ofelia Soza, Arizona
Mrs. Herman Nelson, Colorado
Mrs. Helena Krug, D.C.
Mrs. Paul Brady, Ohio

LA MUSICIENNE

Mrs. Clay Ogle, Texas

COORDINATOR CANDIDATES RECEPTION

Miss Julia Mullan, Massachusetts

1979 LA MARCHÉ NATIONALE LOCAL COMMITTEES

HONORARY CHAIRMAN

Mrs. Ottelia Aaron,
Le Chapeau National Passe

CHAIRMAN

Mrs. Mildred Porter

CO-CHAIRMAN

Mrs. Joe Porow

SECRETAIRE

Mrs. Richard Andreas

REGISTRATION

Mrs. Henry Leake
Mrs. Richard Andreas

PUBLICITY

Mrs. Henry Leake

FIRST AID

Mrs. Charles S. Geinsenberg

INFORMATION

Mrs. Helena Bergeran

LOST AND FOUND

Mrs. Bland Buck

HALLS AND SEATING

Mrs. Carl Flack
Mrs. Shirley Otte

DECORATIONS

Mrs. Herbert Hoover
Mrs. Andrew Champion
Mrs. Tess Bluhm

CANDIDATES RECEPTION

Mrs. Harvey Holcomb

PACKETS

Mrs. Patsy Schedler
Mrs. Anna Mae Myers
Mrs. Ethel Schafer
Mrs. Carolyn Bard
Mrs. Mary Yocum

COORDINATOR FOR DIVISIONAL BREAKFASTS

Mrs. John Russom

AIDES TO LE CHAPEAU NATIONAL

Mrs. Jack Yocum
Mrs. Ray Myers

AIDES TO LE DEMI CHAPEAU NATIONAL

Mrs. Bland Buck
Mrs. A. D. Farrior

AIDES TO L'AUMONIER NATIONAL

Mrs. H. Frank Headrick
Mrs. Paul Schafer

AIDES TO SECRETAIRE NATIONALE

Mrs. Henry Leake
Mrs. Richard Andreas

BANQUET CHAIRMAN

Mrs. Joe Porow

BANQUET RESERVATIONS

Mrs. C. N. Alexander

BANQUET PROGRAM

Mrs. John Russom
Mrs. Clay Ogle

GUEST TABLE HOSTESSES

Mrs. Theodore Allen

GUEST TABLE DECORATIONS

Mrs. C. N. Alexander
Mrs. John Boog
Mrs. Alta Flick
Mrs. Norma Harrell
Mrs. Walter Koehler
Mrs. Anna L. Lillis

DIAZ TABLE DECORATIONS

Mrs. Wilbur Foerster

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

AGENDA EIGHTH NATIONAL CONVENTION SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

Registration Friday, August 17, Concourse D,
Second Floor, Whitehall
Hotel

Saturday, August 18,
Second Floor, Whitehall
Hotel

Convention Committees will
meet on Saturday,
August 18. The time will
be posted at the
Registration Desk.

National Executive Committee. Friday, August 17, Concourse D,
(Pre-convention Meeting) Second Floor, Whitehall
Hotel 3 00 p.m.

8th National Convention Saturday, August 18,
State Ballroom, Second
Floor, Whitehall Hotel

Presiding Officer Richard J. Kepler, (FL)
SAL National Commander

Presentation of Colors
Invocation
Preamble
Re-establishment of Committees
Any Other Business
Benediction
Recess

8th National Convention Sunday, August 19, State
Ballroom Second Floor,
Whitehall Hotel
9.00 a.m.

Presentation of Colors
Invocation
Preamble
Reports of Convention Committee
New Business
Presentations
For the Good of the SAL
Appointment by National Commander Kepler
of Judge of Election and Tellers
Nomination of National Officers for 1979-80

Election of National Officers for 1979-80
National Commander
Five National Vice Commanders
National Chaplain

Installation of National Officers 12:00 noon
Acceptance Speeches
Any Other Business
Benediction
Adjournment

National Executive Committee. Sunday, August 19, State
Ballroom Whitehall Hotel
(Post Convention Meeting) Following Conclusion of National
Convention

Presiding Officer Newly Elected SAL National
Commander

Introduction of Newly Elected
Vice Commanders and Chaplain



**Richard J. Kepler
(Florida)
National Commander**



**Fred Hartline
(Ohio)
Adjutant**

Appointment of*-
National Adjutant
National Judge Advocate
National Historian
National Sgt-at-Arms

*National Commander nominates and NEC approves

Appointment of National Committees for 1979-80
New Business
Unfinished Business
Adjournment

American Legion National. Monday, August 20, 7.00 p.m.
Convention Parade

Looking to the future



THE S.A.L. IN ACTION



I am a Marine. One of the few. One of the proud.



I am part of a patriotic legend that began on November 10, 1775. Over 200 years ago, a few good men banded together and helped win our country's independence. Generation after generation of Marines followed in their footsteps. Ready to keep us—all of us—free. That is where I stand today. A Marine. One of the few. One of the proud.

For recruiting information, call 800-423-2600, toll free. In California, 800-252-0241.



Captain George Taylor, USAF Ret., Junior Past Department Commander of The American Legion (left) presents award for Military Excellence to Vincent M. Gore at a ceremony at the University of Portland in Portland, Oregon honoring ROTC Cadets.

SPONSOR THE AMERICAN LEGION ROTC ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

For further information write:

National Security-Foreign Relations Division
1608 K Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20006

In Appreciation



Maj. Gen. Charles G. Cleveland
USAF
Parade Grand Marshal



Col. Robert J. Blissard
USAF
DOD Coordinator

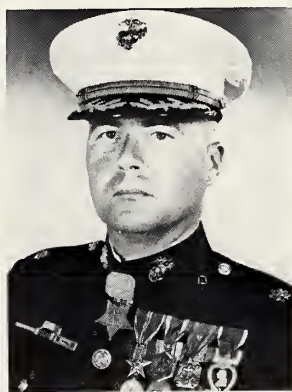
Parade Deputy Grand Marshals



Rear Adm. Paul A. Yost
Coast Guard



**Rear Adm. Joseph
J. Barth, Jr.**
USN

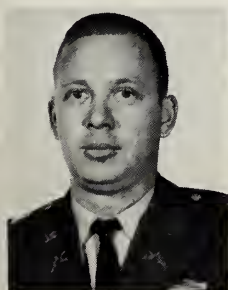


**Lt. Col. Harvey C.
Barnum, Jr.**
USMC



Brig. Gen. William Hill
USA

Project Officers



**Maj. Joseph W.
Trowbridge**
Army



**Lt. William
Irwin**
Navy



**Lt. Col. Ralph
Close**
Marines



**Lt. J.G.
Harold Lee**
Coast Guard



**Maj. Bob
Harmon**
Air Force



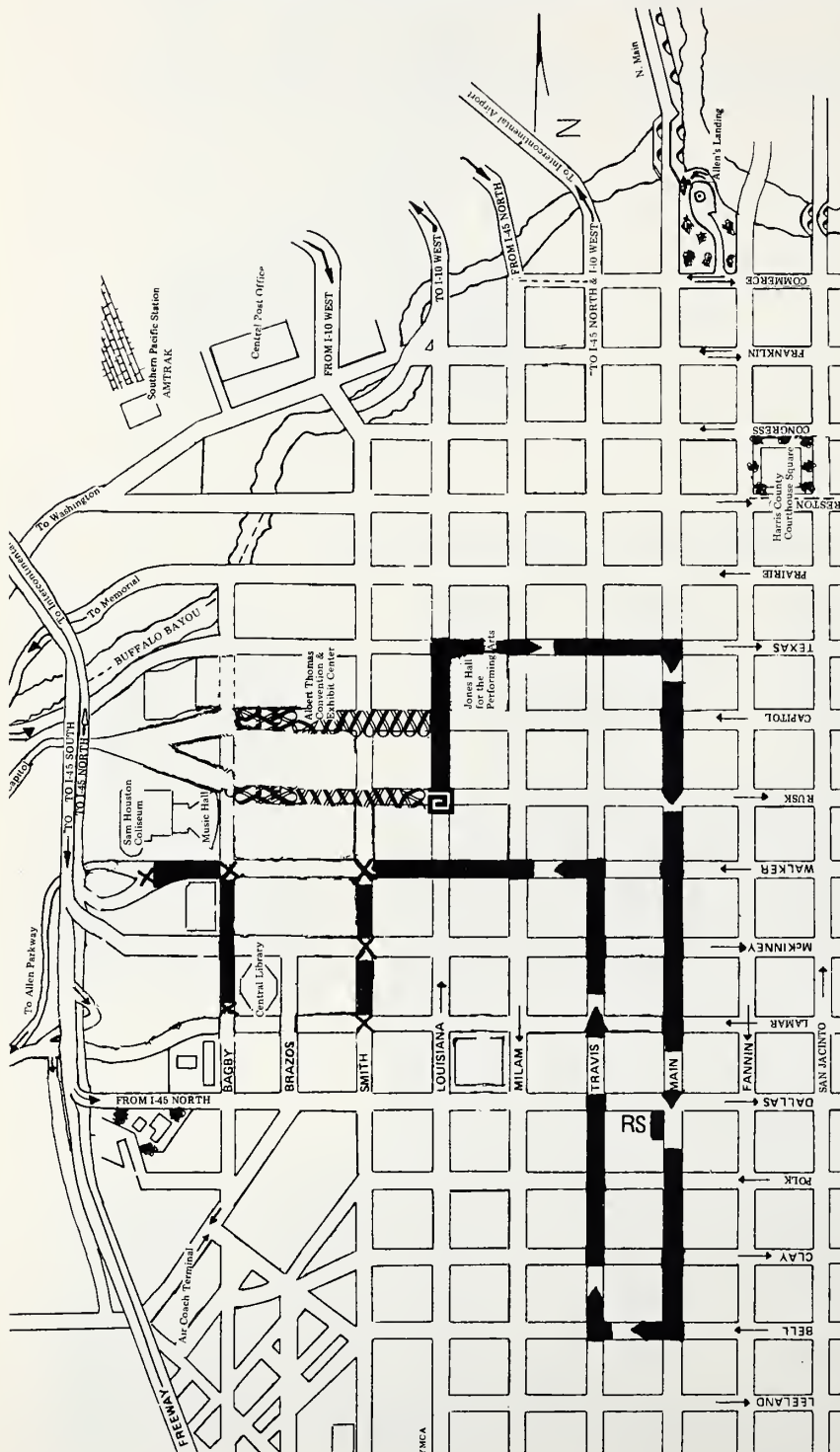
**Lt. Col. Gary
L. Willman**
Air Force

The American Legion National Convention Corporation of Texas and The American Legion expresses appreciation and thanks to Maj. Gen. Charles G. Cleveland, USAF and the

Project Officers for their cooperation and contributions towards the success of the 61st Annual National Convention of the American Legion.

Parade Information

The American Legion 61st National Convention



XXXX ASSEMBLY ROUTES
 — PARADE ROUTE
 X DISBANDING AREAS
 □ INITIAL POINT
 RS REVIEWING STAND

DATE: Sunday, Aug. 19, 1979

TIME: 7:00 P.M.

FORMATION AREA: See attached map

ROUTE: On Louisiana from Rusk, north to Texas, east to Main, south on Main to Bell, west on Bell to Travis, north on Travis to Walker, west on Walker to disbanding.

REVIEWING STAND: On West Side of Main Street in front of 1212 Main Building (Between Dallas & Polk)

DISBANDING AREAS: On Smith from Walker to Lamar; On Bagby from Walker to Lamar; West on Walker from Bagby.

PARADE ORDER

THE AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL CONVENTION PARADE

Sunday, August 19, 1979

GRAND MARSHAL

Maj. Gen. Charles F. Cleveland
Vice Cdr, Hqs Air Training Command
Randolph AFB, Texas 78148

HONORARY GRAND MARSHAL

Robert Charles Smith
P.O. Box 793
Springhill, Louisiana 71075

HONORARY MARSHAL

The Honorable James McConn
Mayor of Houston
City Hall
Houston, Texas 77001

DEPUTY GRAND MARSHALS

Brig Gen Willard D. Hill
Asst. Adjutant General of Texas/ Army
Box 295, Camp Mabry
Austin, Texas 78703

Rear Adm Joseph J. Barth, Jr.
Chief of Naval Air Training
NAS, Corpus Christi, Texas 78419

Rear Adm Paul A. Yost, Jr.
Commander
8th Coast Guard District
Custom House
New Orleans, Louisiana 70130

Maj Harvey C. Barnum, Jr.
Commanding Officer
2d Recruit Training Battalion
Recruit Training Regiment
Marine Corps Recruit Depot
Parris Island, South Carolina 29905

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE COORDINATOR

Col Richard J. Blissard, USAF
Air Commander
147th Fighter Interceptor Group (ANG)
Ellington, Texas 77209

PARADE CO-CHAIRMEN

James Harmon
5810 Birchmont Drive
Houston, Texas 77092

Herb Odell
5105 North Hampshire #30
Ft. Worth, Texas 76112

PARADE ORDER

The official parade of the 61st National Convention of The American Legion will be governed by instructions contained herein, together with the Organization and March Timetable and Assembly and Disbanding Area Map, which are made a part hereof.

1. **Time:** (All times in these orders are Central Daylight Time.)
 - (a) The leading element of the parade will move from the "Initial Point" (corner of Rusk and Louisiana) promptly at 7:00 P.M., Sunday, August 19, 1979 regardless of weather.
 - (b) The time and place of assembly for each Department or element of the Parade will be shown in detail on the Organization and March Timetable, a copy of which has been sent to each Department Adjutant and to the Department Parade Chairman. **A meeting of all Department Parade Chairmen will be held at 3:00 P.M., Saturday, August 18, 1979, in the Imperial Ballroom East (3rd Floor), Hyatt Regency Hotel.**
 - (c) A Parade Official will meet his assigned division at the assembly area following unloading. He will direct buses toward the route to the disbanding area.
 - (d) Because of the nature of the assembly area, accurate logistics are essential. **PROMPTNESS IN ARRIVAL AT THE ASSEMBLY AREA IS MANDATORY.**
2. **ROUTE:** See attached map.
3. **ASSEMBLY AREA:**
 - (a) Assembly area — (See attached map)
 - ASSEMBLY AREA #1 — On Rusk from Bagby to Louisiana
 - ASSEMBLY AREA #2 — On Capitol from Bagby to Louisiana
 - (b) Additional instructions for each Department will be furnished by the Parade Committee at the meeting of the Department Parade Chairmen on Saturday, August 18.
 - (c) Float assembly area will be announced.
4. **ORGANIZATION:**
 - (a) All elements have been assigned to Divisions, each under the direction of a parade official. The composition of these Divisions, order of march, and time and place of assembly is shown on the Organization and March Timetable and Assembly and Disbanding Area Map supplied to Department Parade Chairmen.
 - (b) All Department of Defense Units will be governed by applicable regulations.
 - (c) Each Department Commander or appointed parade representative will be responsible for the order of march and promptness of arrival at the assembly area of all units of his Department. All units will conform to the following distribution and formation:
 - (1) **MASSED COLORS: Eight (8) abreast**
All American Flags, the Department and Post Colors of each Department and the Department and Unit Colors of each Department of the Auxiliary will be massed at the head of each Department delegation in that order.
 - (2) American Legion units within Departments will march in formation eight (8) abreast, one and one-half yards between ranks.
 - (3) Band and Drum Corps: As directed by Drum Majors, but not to exceed eight (8) abreast.
 - (4) Authorized floats and automobiles in single column. No unauthorized floats or automobiles will be allowed to participate. **All vehicles participating in the parade must be equipped with identifying signs on sides thereof, and must also carry an "Official Car" sticker on the windshield.**
 - (5) No maneuvers except for a forward movement — **THIS IS A MUST.** All violators will be dismissed from the parade.
 - (d) **DISTANCES:**
 - (1) Between Divisions — 30 yards
 - (2) Between Departments — 20 yards
 - (3) Between elements of a Department — 10 yards
5. **DISBANDING AREA:**

Disbanding area — (See attached map)

 - DISBANDING AREA 1 — On Smith from Walker to Lamar
 - DISBANDING AREA 2 — On Bagby from Walker to Lamar
 - DISBANDING AREA 3 — West on Walker from Bagby
6. **OFFICIAL REVIEWING STAND:**

The official reviewing stand will be located on the west side of Main Street in front of 1212 Main Building (between Dallas and Polk). Elements will render a salute to the National Commander while passing the reviewing stand (eyes right). Warning signs at 500 and 300 feet will inform all units of the distance to the reviewing stand.
7. **ELIGIBILITY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PARADE AND CONDUCT OF PARTICIPANTS:**
 - (a) Pursuant to a resolution adopted at a meeting of the National Convention Commission at Miami Beach on March 12, 1960, there will be no participation of any vehicles, equipment or items of wearing apparel of the 40 et 8. This regulation will be enforced by the Parade Committee of the 1979 Convention Corporation.
 - (b) With the exception of police, military and naval escort, distinguished guests and school musical units, eligibility to participate in the parade is limited to the members of The American Legion and the uniformed bodies of The American Legion Auxiliary, subject to restriction of the following activities which shall be prohibited in the line of march:
 - (1) The drinking of or simulated drinking of intoxicants.
 - (2) Participants under the influence of intoxicants.
 - (3) Use of water pistols and electric shocking devices.
 - (4) Female impersonators.
 - (5) Firecrackers and any other explosives.
 - (6) Any presentation or representation either immoral or in bad taste.
 - (7) Distribution of souvenirs, promotional or advertising material, either from floats or by marching units.
 - (c) Violators of any of the above rules will be dismissed from the parade immediately.
8. **FIRST AID STATIONS:**

First Aid Stations will be established:

 - (1) In the assembly area.
 - (2) At intervals along the line of march.
 - (3) In the disbanding area.

MARCH ORDER

ESCORT DIVISION

Assemble at 6:00 P.M. — Assembly Area #1
Departure at 7:00 P.M.
Disbanding Area #1

ESCORT

- A. HOUSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
 - (1) Honorary Marshal, Mayor James McConn
- B. GRAND MARSHAL
- C. HONORARY GRAND MARSHAL
- D. DEPUTY GRAND MARSHALS
- E. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE COORDINATOR
- F. UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
 - (1) Color Guard — 147 FIG (ANG), Houston, Texas
 - (2) Lackland Air Force "Band of the West"
 - (3) ANG Float — 147 FIG (ANG), Houston, Texas
 - (4) 40-Man Marching Unit — 147 FIG (ANG), Houston, Texas
- G. UNITED STATES ARMY
 - (1) Color Guard — 36th Abn Bde, Houston, Texas
 - (2) Fifth Army Band — Fort Sam Houston, Texas
 - (3) Vehicle w/Troops — 536th Trans Btn, Houston, Texas
 - (4) Wrecker, 5-Ton — 536th Trans Btn, Houston, Texas
 - (5) Marching Unit — 36th Abn Bde, Houston, Texas
- H. UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
 - (1) Color Guard — I & I Staff, 1st Btn, 23 Marines, 4th Marine Division
 - (2) 1/4-Ton Jeep w/LTC Robert Jespersen, Cdr — H & S Co, 1st Btn, 23 Marine 4th Marine Dvn
 - (3) 40-Man Inf. Platoon — H & S Co, 1st Btn, 23 Marines, 4th Marine Dvn.
- I. UNITED STATES NAVY
 - (1) Color Guard — Forrest Brook High School, Houston, Texas
 - (2) Carrier Float — Navy Recruiting District
 - (3) Sub Float — Navy Recruiting District
 - (4) Navy JROTC — Forrest Brook High School, Houston, Texas
- J. UNITED STATES COAST GUARD
 - (1) Color Guard — Coast Guard Port Safety Station, Houston, Texas
 - (2) Boating Safety Display
- K. AIR NATIONAL GUARD
 - (1) Band — 136th Tactical Airlift Wing, Dallas, Texas
- L. NAVY ROTC
 - (1) Color Guard, South Houston High School, Houston, Texas

I DIVISION

Assemble at 6:00 P.M. — Assembly Area #1
Disbanding Area #2

- 1. The American Legion 1978 National Championship Band
- 2. National Colors and 1978 National Championship Color Guard
- 3. National Commander, The American Legion
- 4. National President, The American Legion Auxiliary
- 5. National Officers
- 6. The American Legion 1978 National Championship Jr. Drum & Bugle Corps
- 7. Past National Commanders
- 8. Society of The American Legion Founders
- 9. The American Legion Youth Award Winners
- 10. Sons of The American Legion
- 11. The American Legion 1978 National Championship Chorus, Junior Color Guard and Firing Squad
- 12. Seagram Posts' Float and 2 Automobiles

13. Foreign and Outlying Departments

Panama
Canada
France
Mexico
Philippines
Italy
Puerto Rico

14. Arizona

II DIVISION

Assemble at 6:30 P.M. — Assembly Area #2
Disbanding Area #1

- | | |
|--------------|----------------|
| 15. Florida | 19. New Mexico |
| 16. Alaska | 20. Maryland |
| 17. Virginia | 21. Ohio |
| 18. Idaho | |

III DIVISION

Assemble at 7:00 P.M. — Assembly Area #2
Disbanding Area #2

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| 22. Minnesota | 26. North Carolina |
| 23. South Carolina | 27. Maine |
| 24. Wyoming | 28. Nebraska |
| 25. Kentucky | |

IV DIVISION

Assemble at 7:45 P.M. — Assembly Area #1
Disbanding Area #1

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| 29. Utah | 33. New Hampshire |
| 30. Vermont | 34. West Virginia |
| 31. Montana | 35. Kansas |
| 32. South Dakota | |

V DIVISION

Assemble at 8:30 P.M. — Assembly Area #1
Disbanding Area #2

- | | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| 36. Indiana | 40. Arkansas |
| 37. Tennessee | 41. Mississippi |
| 38. Louisiana | 42. Oregon |
| 39. Wisconsin | |

VI DIVISION

Assemble at 9:15 P.M. — Assembly Area #2
Disbanding Area #1

- | | |
|------------------|----------------|
| 43. Nevada | 47. California |
| 44. Iowa | 48. Michigan |
| 45. North Dakota | 49. Washington |
| 46. Colorado | |

VII DIVISION

Assemble at 9:45 P.M. — Assembly Area #2
Disbanding Area #2

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| 50. New Jersey | 54. Rhode Island |
| 51. Missouri | 55. Alabama |
| 52. Pennsylvania | 56. Massachusetts |
| 53. Delaware | |

VIII DIVISION

Assemble at 10:15 P.M. — Assembly Area #1
Disbanding Area #1

- | | |
|--------------|--------------------------|
| 57. New York | 61. Connecticut |
| 58. Illinois | 62. District of Columbia |
| 59. Oklahoma | 63. Hawaii |
| 60. Georgia | |

IX DIVISION

Assemble at 10:45 P.M. — Assembly Area #1
Disbanding Area #3

64. Texas

The American Legion Salutes Outstanding Students At Military Academies

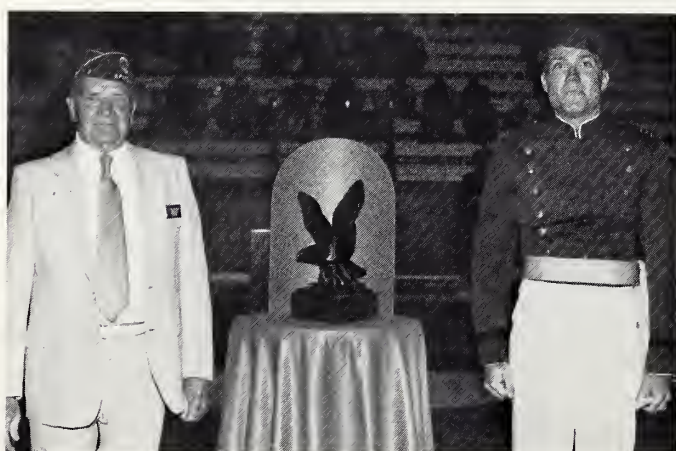
1979



National Vice Commander Nathan M. Wolfe of South Carolina presents The American Legion Award to Jon Gahan of Huntsville, Alabama, at the United States Naval Academy.



Cadet Scott R. Duffin of Cinnaminson, New Jersey, is the recipient of The American Legion Award at the United States Military Academy. National Vice Commander Joseph F. Ward of New Jersey makes the presentation.



Cadet William P. Doyle of Simi Valley, California, of the United States Air Force Academy receives The American Legion Award from National Vice Commander L. Max Connolly of Arizona.



National Vice Commander John H. Wienand, Jr., of Alabama presents The American Legion Award to Alex O. Simonka of Florence, New Jersey, of the United States Coast Guard Academy.



Statement of Support for the Guard and Reserve

We recognize the National Guard and Reserve as essential to the strength of our nation and the maintenance of world peace. They require and deserve the interest and support of the American business community, as well as every segment of our society.


In the highest American tradition, these Guard and Reserve forces are manned by civilians. Their voluntary service takes them from their homes, their families and their occupations. On weekends, and at other times, they train to prepare themselves to answer their country's call to active service in the United States armed forces.


If these volunteer forces are to continue to serve our nation, a broader public understanding is required of the total force policy of national security — and the essential role of the Guard and Reserve within it.

The Guard and Reserve need the patriotic cooperation of American employers in facilitating the participation of their eligible employees in Guard and Reserve programs, without impediment or penalty.

We therefore join members of the American business community in agreement that:

1. Our employees' job and career opportunities will not be limited or reduced because of their service in the Guard or Reserve;
2. Our employees will be granted leaves of absence for military training in the Guard or Reserve without sacrifice of vacation time; and
3. This agreement and the resultant policies will be made known throughout the organization and announced in publications and through other existing means of communication.


National Chairman
National Committee for Employer Support
of the Guard and Reserve


President
United States of America

TEAMWORK SPELLS SUCCESS IN REHABILITATION

Teamwork is a necessary ingredient for the success of The American Legion's Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Program. Through this program assistance is rendered to, and representation is provided for veterans and their dependents in their efforts to secure Federal benefits to which they may be entitled. The American Legion's team performing such service consists of Post, County, and Department Service Officers, together with claims representatives on the staff of the National Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Commission.

Here you see a member of the staff of the Commission representing a veteran claimant at a hearing before the Board of Veterans Appeals. It should be noted that The American Legion currently represents 25 percent of all the cases certified to the Board of Veterans Appeals in which an organization has been appointed as representative.

If you believe you may be entitled to or desire information regarding a Federal benefit, it is suggested you contact your respective Post, County, or Department Service Officer, as soon as possible. Don't be hesitant — each and every one of these representatives are ready, willing, and able to provide you with the assistance you desire.



**A SERVICE OF
THE NATIONAL VETERANS AFFAIRS
AND REHABILITATION COMMISSION**

Remember Johnny?



Kids do have a way of growing up when you're looking the other way, don't they?

Growing up and maturing is what the Navy is all about. And it isn't the same Navy now as it was just a few years ago. Today's modern Navy offers opportunities in continuing education, advanced electronics, nuclear power . . . and learning and sharpening skills through on-the-job training in just about any trade you can imagine.

Couple these advantages with good pay, travel, 30-days paid leave each year, free dental and medical care . . . and you have the finest combination anywhere.

Your Navy recruiter can give you more information than there is room to mention here. Give him a call toll free at (800) 841-8000. (In Georgia it's 800-342-5855).

Johnny isn't a kid any more . . . he's a young man on the move.

NAVY

He's in the Navy now.

Legionnaires—

get to know us better after the convention.....

FOR

BOOKLETS,

FILMS,

SPEAKERS,

OR

OTHER INFORMATION

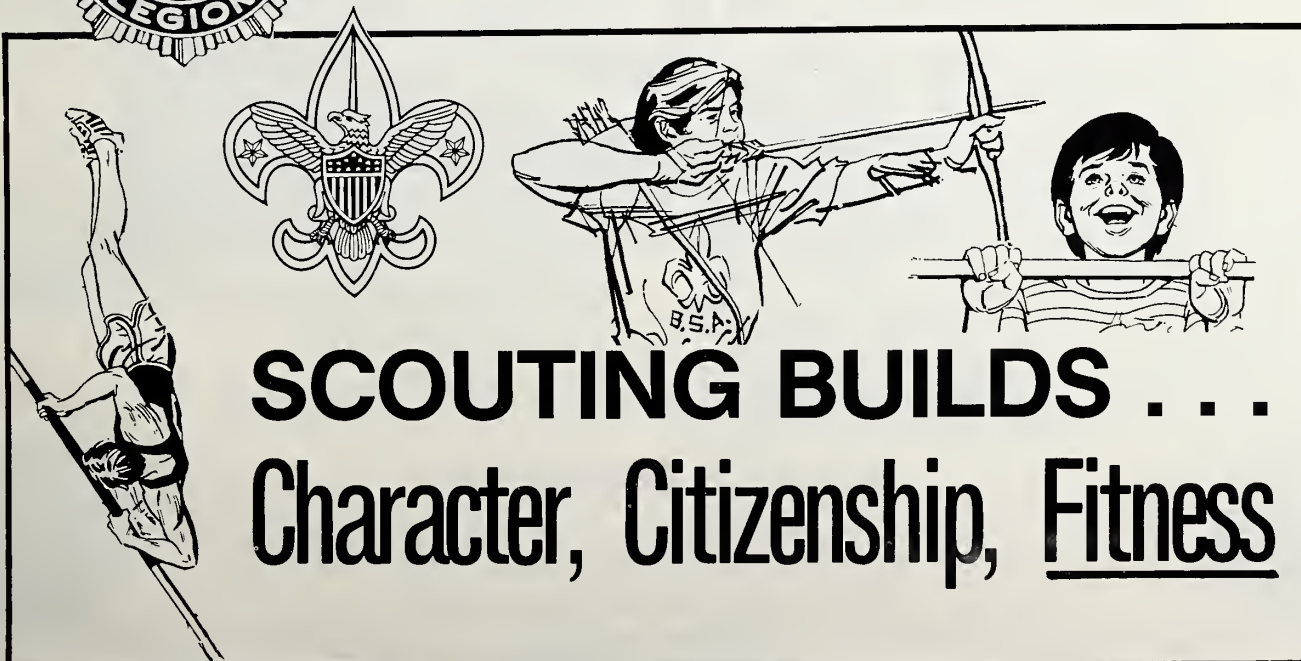
WRITE:

Community Relations Branch
U.S. Coast Guard
Washington, D.C. 20590



The National Americanism Commission says

**"Scouting units should be a
must in every Legion Post."**



SCOUTING BUILDS . . .
Character, Citizenship, Fitness

“Kids don’t have a fighting chance without a good club”

—Sylvester Stallone

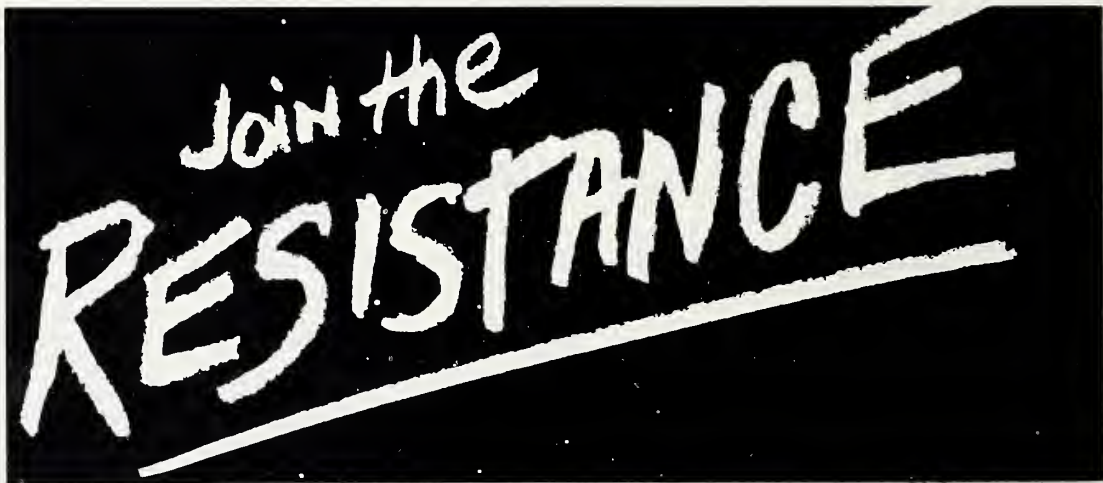


I know what it's like to be an underdog.
And what it's like to get that one chance and make it count.
For a million kids, the Boys' Club is that one chance.
There are 1,100 clubs run by adults with a lot of heart and
the time to listen. They help with the problems of growing
up and make sure the clubs stay open when kids need
a place to play, learn, or just think.
With all this to offer, the Boys' Club gives kids better than
just a chance.
It gives them a fighting chance.

Support the Boys' Clubs of America.

For more information write:

B.C.A. National Headquarters, 771 First Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10017



THE AMERICAN LEGION CRIME RESISTANCE PROGRAM IN YOUR COMMUNITY



For further information write:
National Security-Foreign Relations Division
1608 K Street NW
Washington D.C. 20006



Houston Offers Historic Sites

Visitors to Houston will find many scenic as well as historic spots to enjoy. Pictured on this page are several that you may want to view and visit. Take time to enjoy some of them before returning home. You will be glad you did.



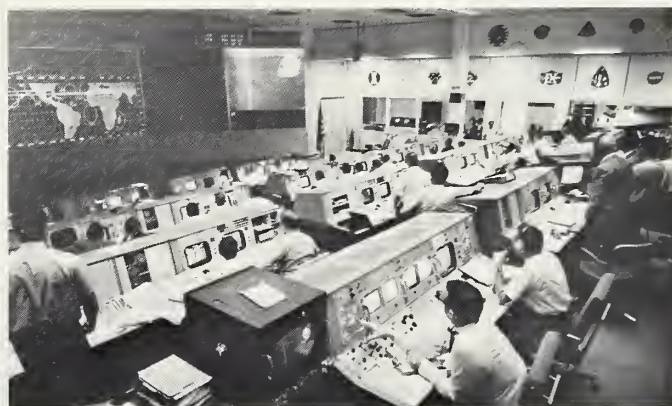
Ships from all over the free world visit the Port of Houston making this city the third largest seaport in the nation. Responsible for approximately one-third of Houston's economy, the Ship Channel is man-made. The legendary Jesse Jones is credited with initiating the idea of digging this 50-mile deep-water channel from the Gulf of Mexico to Houston. Now, tankers, freighters, oceanliners, battleships, aircraft carriers, ocean-going barges and even atomic-power ships visit Houston. Utilizing the Channel's facilities, the vast oil and petrochemical industries have turned the area into the famous "spaghetti bowl".



Enroute to the Texas Medical Center on Fannin Street, or beyond it to the Astrodome from downtown Houston, you will pass Hermann Park and the statue of Sam Houston. A colossus of Texas history, commanding general of the revolutionary army and architect of the San Jacinto victory, Sam Houston was two-time president of the Republic of Texas, United States Senator for almost 14 years, and governor of Texas when the Civil War broke out in 1861. Old Sam was the heart and soul and gizzard of the Republic of Texas, and to the day of his death in 1863, he projected a powerful father image to most Texans. If he had been nothing else, of course, Sam Houston was, indeed, a soldier's soldier.



High on the list of places to go and things to see and do, while in Houston is the mammoth Astrodome pictured here. The Houston Astros Baseball team of the National League of Baseball and the Houston Oilers of the National Football League call this gigantic structure their home. The Astros will be hosting the Philadelphia Phillies during part of our convention stay in Houston so this will give an opportunity for many Legionnaires to look at the Astrodome and watch some baseball too.



Mission Control, Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, undoubtedly will be a popular attraction for 1979 American Legion National Convention delegates and guests. Control of the first mission which put men on the moon was handled from this room in the Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center near Houston, Texas.



The site of the 1979 American Legion National Convention, Houston's downtown area skyline is as impressive as that of any major American metropolis. These tall buildings house many of the major oil companies and other energy-related businesses whose headquarters have been relocated in Houston. Houston's downtown area, however, does not have an exclusive on skyscrapers. Many are located throughout the city, including a large number in the Galleria-Post Oak complex west of downtown.

AMERICAN LEGION POST SUPPLIES

LEGION CAPS MADE TO YOUR ORDER. Every effort is made to deliver your custom made cap within 4 weeks of receipt of your order. However, please allow 8 weeks during May through September -- the peak period of new officer election. Add 25 cents per character for ALL additional lettering. Fort Knox style caps available at no extra charge. All lettering, insignia, etc., must be worn on right side of cap. For caps Size 8 and over, add \$1.00 to prices quoted below.

STYLE 1 LETTERING. Post numerals with name of state in full.

No. 71169 Unlined \$7.35
No. 71225 Lined \$7.90

STYLE 2 LETTERING. Post numerals with city name in full and state abbreviated.

No. 71197 Unlined \$ 9.70
No. 71253 Lined \$10.30

WOMEN'S MODIFIED. Lined.

No. 71281 Style 1 \$10.50
No. 71309 Style 2 \$10.75

SPECIAL STATE INSIGNIA

Caps for the following states have special embroidery. When ordering, add the following amount to the cap price.

ARIZONA - Cactus \$1.05
ARKANSAS - Razorback \$1.35
CONNECTICUT - Buff Top \$.70
KANSAS - Sunflower \$1.00
LOUISIANA - Red USA (Style 1 only) \$.50
LOUISIANA - Pelican (All caps) \$1.00
MAINE - Pine Tree \$1.00
MISSISSIPPI - Magnolia \$1.05
NEBRASKA - (Style 1 only) Covered Wagon & Large State Name \$4.55
NEW HAMPSHIRE - Old Man of the Mountain \$1.20
NORTH CAROLINA - Dogwood \$1.00
OKLAHOMA - Indian \$1.00
RHODE ISLAND - Rooster \$2.05
SOUTH CAROLINA - Palmetto \$1.05
TEXAS - Star & Steer \$1.90
VIRGINIA - Cardinal \$1.40
WYOMING - (Style 1 only) "Let-R-Buck" \$3.40

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION CAPS. Unlettered. All caps have red, white and blue piping. ALL lettering is 25 cents per character additional. District and Detachment cap orders must be routed through Legion Department Headquarters for approval. Special state insignia not available.

SQUADRON. French Blue.

No. 51002 \$6.50



SHIPPING AND INSURANCE Add to ALL Orders

Up to \$5.00 \$1.50
\$5.01 to \$10.00 \$2.00
\$10.01 to \$30.00 \$3.00
\$30.01 to \$50.00 \$4.00
\$50.01 & Over \$5.00

INSIGNIA-PINS-BADGES-YEAR BARS

DIAMONDS. ONLY 10K gold items can be furnished with diamonds. Add the following diamond and setting cost TO THE COST OF THE DESIRED ITEM. Write for quotations on larger diamonds.

3 point \$ 42.70
5 point \$ 64.90
8 point \$123.90
10 point \$154.20

PAST OFFICER LAPEL TACKS. Specify title.

No. 63558 1/10 GF \$ 5.55
No. 83558 10K Gold \$ 23.00

10K Gold Past Post Commander Tack with Post number and date. Only office available. Allow 5 weeks for delivery. Specify Post number and year office held.

No. 83630 \$ 32.90

MINIATURE PRESENT AND PAST OFFICERS' BADGES.

No. 82475 Gold Plate \$ 3.30
No. 62625 1/10 GF \$ 12.55
No. 82625 10K Gold \$ 41.55

MINIATURE YEAR BARS. State year.

No. 87757 Gold Plate \$ 1.30
No. 87934 10K Gold \$ 4.70

REGULATION PRESENT OFFICERS' BADGES.

No. 82865 Gold Plate \$ 4.25

REGULATION PAST OFFICERS' BADGES.

No. 82940 Gold Plate \$ 4.25
No. 63090 1/10 GF \$ 27.75
No. 83090 10K Gold \$139.60

REGULATION YEAR BARS. State year.

No. 88285 Gold Plate \$ 1.45
No. 88408 10K Gold \$ 11.25

PRESENT AND PAST OFFICERS' BADGES for American Legion are available with appropriate top bar background. Badges are available for ONLY the elective Constitutional offices, as listed below. No other officer titles available.

American Legion elective offices: Commander; Vice Commander; Adjutant; Assistant Adjutant; Finance Officer; Judge Advocate; Service Officer; Sergeant-At-Arms; Assistant Sergeant-At-Arms; Athletic Officer; Chaplain; Historian; Executive Committee.

YEAR BARS. Regulation size and miniature size year bars are available for 1980, 1979, 1978, 1977, and 1976. Add \$1.00 and allow 4 weeks for all other years.

Important: In ordering all badges specify title, level, size and quality. All regulation size badges may be engraved on the back at 20 cents additional per character.



ORDER FROM:

**National Emblem Sales,
The American Legion, P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206**

Enclosed is \$ _____ or: Charge my ☐ VISA

☐ Master Charge Card No. _____ Expires _____

Interbank No. _____

Please Ship: _____

Size: _____

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

ALL PRICES GOOD THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 1979

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DONATE BLOOD

DARE TO CARE



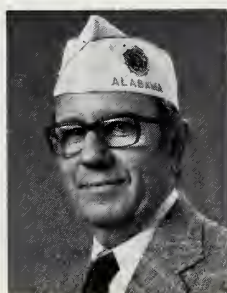
For further information write

National Security-Foreign Relations Division

1608 K Street NW

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006

**100
Point
Department
Commanders**



P. Barnett
Alabama



R. Perkins
★
Alaska



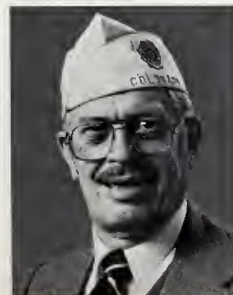
W. Sims
★
Arizona



C. Kemp
Arkansas



L. Burke
California



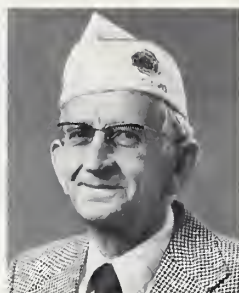
J. Fritts
Colorado



R. Bechard
★
Florida



R. Turner
Georgia



M. Sasser
Idaho



M. Napier
Indiana



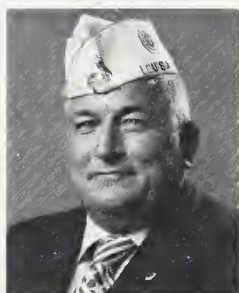
M. Studer
Iowa



J. Thielen
Kansas



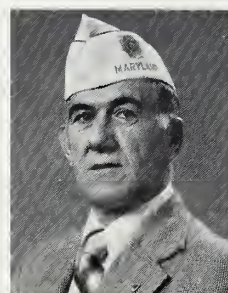
W. Metcalf
★
Kentucky



R. Farris
Louisiana



H. Fischer
★
Maine

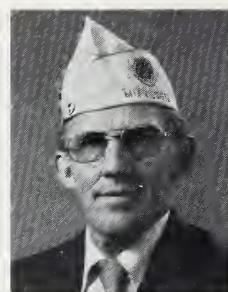


J. Thomas
★
Maryland



G. Sammons
Michigan

These are the Commanders who led their respective Departments to 100 or more points during this 1977-78 American Legion year under a scoring system set up by the National Membership and Post Activities Committee. Departments earned points by meeting specified membership goals on target dates during the year and by chartering new American Legion Posts. A star (★) identifies those "Leaders Who Dare." This elite group led their respective Departments to a membership which exceeded their 1977 total by 30 days prior to the National Convention.



H. Buck
Minnesota



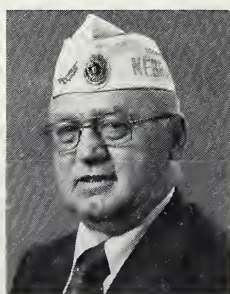
V. Broom
Mississippi



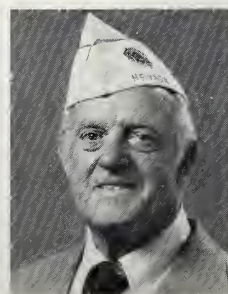
R. Foster
Missouri



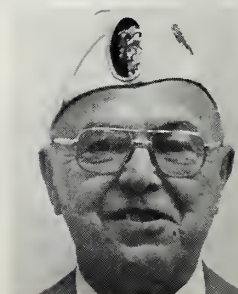
W. Heikkenen
Montana



D. Merry
Nebraska



J. Romaine
Nevada



E. Ledoux
New Hampshire



P. Sanchez
★
New Mexico



C. Lewis
North Carolina



O. Helm
North Dakota



E. Bohn
★
Ohio



L. Walker
★
Oklahoma



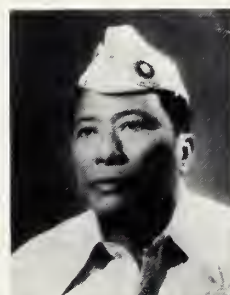
C. Bingham
Oregon



F. Richardson
★
Panama



S. Mikosky
Pennsylvania



A. Santos
Philippines



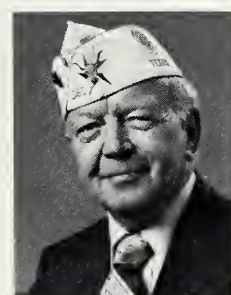
W. Weatherly
★
South Carolina



D. Weekley
★
South Dakota



J. Waters
★
Tennessee



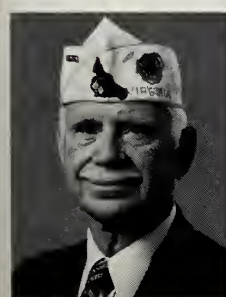
G. Skelly
Texas



B. Swapp
Utah



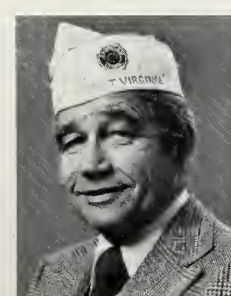
R. Bradbury
Vermont



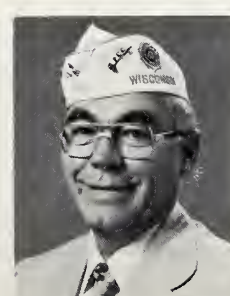
W. Corrie
★
Virginia



Mrs. D. Gross
Washington



R. Vass
West Virginia



E. Van Dyke
Wisconsin



E. Schwoppe
★
Wyoming



ANNUAL REPORT

The final pages of this official program of the 61st Annual National Convention of The American Legion contain a condensed annual report for the 1978-79 American Legion year. A complete, detailed report has been prepared for submission to the Congress of the United States in accordance with requirements of the Legion's Congressionally-granted charter.

Believing that the delegates to the National Convention are entitled to receive a concise statement of the major activities of The American Legion year ending with this National Convention, your national headquarters provides this illustrated report as a part of the official program. In this manner, we are assured that every delegate and every one who registers for the convention will receive the condensed annual report.

AIRLINE TRANSPORTATION

American	222-9873
Braniff	621-3111
Continental	780-3344
Delta	623-6000
Eastern	621-8100
National	224-9011
Texas International	443-8900

Great challenges continue to face the nation and its veterans. While The American Legion attained remarkable success in the legislative field during the 95th Session of The Congress, we will again need to take the offensive against recurring threats, some alive and eruptive, others appearing on the horizon.



Public service programs continue to prosper. The decision to participate with the Special Olympics program appears to have been of landmark proportions. Patriotism and concern for national dignity are again acceptable attributes.

Programs of The American Legion have been enriched through efforts of our staff. New employees are contributing as they learn and grow. Leadership from the volunteer field has been particularly alert and effective. Membership enrollment is encouraging. Lines of communication grow stronger throughout the organization. Morale is at high level. The American Legion is versatile, vibrant and responsive to the times. We move forward with character and pride.

National Commander John M. Carey has pursued his goals with forcefulness and imagination. His leadership has been received with enthusiasm during his visits across the width and breadth of the nation. Your selected officers are of quality to compliment the National Commander.

The remaining pages of this book are a condensed, pictorial report of the highlights of Commander Carey's term of office and of The American Legion's year. We commend it to your reading.

FRANK C. MOMSEN
National Adjutant

THE AMERICAN LEGION 61ST ANNUAL REPORT

A full, detailed report has been submitted to the Congress of the United States in accordance with the provisions of Public Law 249, 77th Congress, approved September 18, 1941.

NATIONAL OFFICERS



John M. "Jack" Carey
(Michigan)
National Commander



Frank C. Momsen
(Minnesota)
National Adjutant



L. Max Connolly
(Arizona)
National Vice Commander



Alvin F. Grauerholz
(Kansas)
National Vice Commander



Joseph F. Ward
(New Jersey)
National Vice Commander



John H. Weinand, Jr.
(Alabama)
National Vice Commander



Nathan M. Wolfe
(South Carolina)
National Vice Commander



Rev. R. Drew Wolcott
(Mexico)
National Chaplain



Bertram G. Davis
(New York)
National Judge Advocate



O. Webber LaGrange
(Indiana)
National Treasurer



Harry H. Kretzler
(Washington)
National Historian



John J. Harris
(New York)
National Sergeant-at-Arms

The American Legion has selected Houston as the host city for its 1979 National Convention, marking the second time in its history the Legion has selected the rapidly growing Texas metropolis as its National Convention city, both times in the decade of the 1970's. The earlier visit was in 1971.

The American Legion, founded in 1919 through founding caucuses in Paris, France, and St. Louis, Missouri, by the men and women of the first American Expeditionary Force, is the largest American veterans organization, numbering nearly 2,700,000 veterans of World War I, World War II, Korea and Vietnam in its ranks.

The American Legion is a non-profit, veterans service organization founded to render service to God and country, to veterans, to young people and to all citizens.

Indianapolis, Indiana, was selected as National Headquarters by The American Legion at its First Annual National Convention in 1919. The Hoosier capital city still is "home" to Legion headquarters. The organization also maintains a major office operation in Washington, D.C., where those program divisions whose work requires close liaison with the Congress and the several agencies of the federal government are based.

The National Commander is the chief executive officer of the organization and the office presently is held by John M. Carey of Grand Blanc, Michigan. He is elected by the National Convention, along with five National Vice Commanders.

The National Adjutant is the top administrative officer of The American Legion, with Frank C. Momsen of Minnesota now holding that position.

The National Executive Committee

Between National Conventions, the administrative authority of The American Legion is exercised by the National Executive Committee composed of the National Commander, the five National Vice Commanders, National Chaplain, and one committeeman (plus alternate) elected by each department. Past National Commanders are life members of the NEC without vote. The NEC appoints the National Adjutant, Treasurer, Judge Advocate, Chaplain, Historian, and Sergeant-at-Arms. The NEC also has full and complete control over the annual budget.

National Executive Committeemen

Alabama	<i>Lewis E. McCray</i>	Missouri	<i>Cleo T. Martin</i>
Alaska	<i>Robert G. Blair</i>	Montana	<i>Theodore P. Crawford</i>
Arizona	<i>Ronald C. Murphy, Jr.</i>	Nebraska	<i>Robert W. Lowry</i>
Arkansas	<i>Bob Legan</i>	Nevada	<i>Charles F. Lang</i>
California	<i>Donald W. Foote</i>	New Hampshire	<i>Laurence R. Spaulding</i>
Canada	<i>J. Archie Corriveau</i>	New Jersey	<i>Warren R. Davies</i>
Colorado	<i>Paul B. Rodden</i>	New Mexico	<i>Robert W. Durand</i>
Connecticut	<i>Joseph G. Leonard</i>	New York	<i>Richard M. Pedro</i>
Delaware	<i>Carlton L. Smith</i>	North Carolina	<i>Robert A. Tart</i>
District of Columbia	<i>Thomas C. Kouyeas</i>	North Dakota	<i>Earnest N. Schmit</i>
Florida	<i>Johnson E. Davis</i>	Ohio	<i>Charles R. Green</i>
France	<i>Helmut Spangenthal</i>	Oklahoma	<i>Tom C. Smith</i>
Georgia	<i>W. D. Harrell</i>	Oregon	<i>T. Les Galloway</i>
Hawaii	<i>Libert J. Pakele, Jr.</i>	Panama, C.Z.	<i>Romeo J. Routhier</i>
Idaho	<i>Elton Ashton</i>	Pennsylvania	<i>Dr. Almo J. Sebastianelli</i>
Illinois	<i>Russell P. Bieritz</i>	Philippines	<i>Ernesto P. Golez</i>
Indiana	<i>Gilbert E. Sheeks</i>	Puerto Rico	<i>Roberto Gonzalez Vazquez</i>
Iowa	<i>Donald H. Harmeyer</i>	Rhode Island	<i>Kenneth O. Todd</i>
Italy	<i>Frank C. Bottigliero</i>	South Carolina	<i>E. Roy Stone, Jr.</i>
Kansas	<i>U. S. "Udie" Grant</i>	South Dakota	<i>Wayne Slade</i>
Kentucky	<i>J. Leslie Brown, Jr.</i>	Tennessee	<i>Percy C. Miller</i>
Louisiana	<i>J. B. Broussard</i>	Texas	<i>Robert P. Walsh</i>
Maine	<i>Vito M. DeFilipp</i>	Utah	<i>William E. Christoffersen</i>
Maryland	<i>Clarence M. Bacon</i>	Vermont	<i>Melvin "Doc" Simon</i>
Massachusetts	<i>Robert W. Groccia</i>	Virginia	<i>Thomas J. Gear</i>
Mexico	<i>Gordon A. Ballantyne</i>	Washington	<i>Donald E. Snow</i>
Michigan	<i>George D. Johnson</i>	West Virginia	<i>J. H. "Tim" Ashcraft</i>
Minnesota	<i>Donald R. Schroedl</i>	Wisconsin	<i>Henry F. Renard</i>
Mississippi	<i>Ralph M. Godwin</i>	Wyoming	<i>John A. Mokler</i>

Past National Commanders

<i>Harry W. Colmery</i>	Kansas	<i>Donald E. Johnson</i>	Iowa
<i>James F. O'Neil</i>	New Hampshire	<i>L. Eldon James</i>	Virginia
<i>S. Perry Brown</i>	Texas	<i>John E. Davis</i>	North Dakota
<i>George N. Craig</i>	Indiana	<i>William E. Galbraith</i>	Nebraska
<i>Erle Cocke, Jr.</i>	Georgia	<i>William C. Doyle</i>	New Jersey
<i>Donald R. Wilson</i>	West Virginia	<i>J. Milton Patrick</i>	Oklahoma
<i>J. Addington Wagner</i>	Michigan	<i>Alfred P. Chamie</i>	California
<i>W. C. Daniel</i>	Virginia	<i>John H. Geiger</i>	Illinois
<i>John S. Gleason, Jr.</i>	Illinois	<i>Joe L. Matthews</i>	Texas
<i>Preston J. Moore</i>	Oklahoma	<i>Robert E. L. Eaton</i>	Maryland
<i>Martin B. McKneally</i>	New York	<i>James M. Wagonseller</i>	Ohio
<i>William R. Burke</i>	California	<i>Harry G. Wiles</i>	Kansas
<i>Charles L. Bacon</i>	Missouri	<i>William J. Rogers</i>	Maine
<i>Daniel F. Foley</i>	Minnesota	<i>Robert Charles Smith</i>	Louisiana

Pictorial Highlights of National Commander



John M. Carey, of Grand Blanc, Michigan, moves to the platform of the 60th Annual National Convention to acknowledge the plaudits of the delegates and accept the responsibilities for providing national leadership to America's largest veterans organization for 1978-79.



The newly elected National Commander of the American Legion, John M. Carey, is shown on the convention platform flanked by the men elected to serve with him as National Vice Commanders during his term of office. Shown (left to right) are: Nathan M. Wolfe, of South Carolina; Joseph F. Ward, of New Jersey; Alvin F. Grauerholz, of Kansas; L. Max Connolly, of Arizona; and John H. Wienand, Jr., of Alabama.



Carrying his "We Dare To Care" theme to the nation's capital soon after his election as National Commander of The American Legion, Commander Carey meets with Dr. Alan K. Campbell, director of the Office of Personnel Management (formerly chairman of the Civil Service Commission) to discuss, among other things, their differences over retention of Veterans Preference in federal hiring.



National Commander John M. Carey (seated third from right) delivers American Legion testimony to both the Senate and House Committees on Veterans Affairs on one of his earlier visits to Washington, D.C., after his election. Commander Carey spelled out to the committees the details of Legion mandates scheduled to be brought before the Congress.



Prior to offering American Legion testimony to the House Committee on Veterans Affairs, National Commander Carey meets with Congressman Ray Roberts, of Texas, Chairman of the House Committee. Shown at the sides of the commander and the Congressman are (left): Albert D. Brown, Jr., chairman of the Legion's National Legislative Commission and (right) National Adjutant Frank C. Momsen.



The American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary dare to care about the disadvantaged, and evidence that concern with a pledge of cooperation and assistance to the Special Olympics program for the retarded. Here Auxiliary President Maxine Bigalow and National Commander Carey (left of banner) are joined in the Legion's Washington Headquarters building by Mrs. Eunice Kennedy Shriver, president of the International Summer Special Olympic Games, for the formal announcement of American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary support for the games. The banner carries the symbol of Special Olympics.

Carey's "We Dare To Care" Year



One of The American Legion's prime concerns is for the adequacy of the Armed Forces of the United States to cope with any threat, anywhere, at any time. Here the Legion chief visits with General Bernard Rogers, chief of staff, U.S. Army, and presents him with a copy of The American Legion's mandates in the area of National Security.



The American Legion dares to care for the nation's veterans and Commander John M. Carey expresses his organization's concern to Dr. James C. Crutcher, Chief Medical Director of the Veterans Administration. Accompanying the National Commander is Robert E. Lyngh (right), American Legion Director of Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation.



Commander Carey visits with President Carter at the White House and delivers to the Chief Executive a bound copy of the resolutions of the last National Convention detailing current American Legion mandates. Administrator of Veterans Affairs Max Cleland accompanied the National Commander to the White House.



Commander Carey chats with Michigan Senator Robert Griffin (center) and Senator Alan Cranston, California, chairman of the Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs, as he prepares to deliver American Legion testimony before Senator Cranston's committee.



The American Legion pays a 60th Anniversary tribute to the men and women of the First American Expeditionary Force, the Founders of The American Legion, with the presentation of a check for \$60,000 toward construction of a memorial to General of the Armies John J. Pershing, commander-in-chief of the AEF. National Commander Carey presents the check to General Maxwell D. Taylor, USA (Ret.), honorary chairman of the Pershing Memorial Museum Development Fund, during Public Relations luncheon at the Annual Washington Conference.



Panama's President Aristides Royos (left) receives National Commander and Mrs. Carey during the Commander's official visit to American Legionnaires in the Panama Canal Zone. The Legion opposed the transfer of the canal and the Canal Zone to Panama, but new treaties aimed at accomplishing the transfer were negotiated and approved by the United States Senate.

AMERICANISM COMMISSION



Daniel J. O'Connor (New York), Chairman
Ray Patterson (Iowa), Director

It is the objective of the National Americanism Commission to translate Americanism precepts, principles and ideals in an understanding and practical manner to Legion Posts and other groups and individuals, including young America.

A strong Americanism program should emphasize the significance of the American tradition, and should instill a sense of personal obligation to accept an active part in the duties and responsibilities of American citizenship. It should provide opportunity and encouragement for each individual to develop to his fullest capacity the intellectual, moral, physical and economic qualifications necessary for happy, useful living in a free country.

Your National Americanism program which is charged with promotion of citizenship through education has within its present structure a wealth of programs, particularly youth activities, which if properly implemented could go a long way in reversing dangerous trends apparent today in our national lifestyle. Some have stated that the manifestations of citizenship take different forms today from what they were twenty or thirty years ago. This may be true, but it is an obligation of The American Legion to see to it that our young people are indoctrinated with the principles of our American way of life, that they understand the true meaning and value of our American heritage, and that education does train them to become productive and contributing adults.



Finalists in the 1979 American Legion National High School Oratorical Contest are pictured above from left to right in the order of their finish, and were awarded scholarships to the colleges and/or universities of their choice in the amounts of \$8,000, \$5,000, \$3,000 and \$2,000, respectively, for first through fourth place. The 1979 contestants, shown as they finished, are: Fernando Baell, Jr., Lafayette Hill, Pa.; Bruce A. Menin, Miami Beach, Fla.; Jeffrey R. Bragalone, Fort Leavenworth, Kan., and Paul T. Yarbrough, of Las Cruces, N.M.

This obligation can be met if we conduct our Americanism programs in every community throughout our land.

Boys State/Boys Nation

Over 30,000 high school students, selected from their junior class, participated in Boys State, representing a nationwide program of orientation in the operation of city, county and state government. Fifty American Legion Departments conducted a Boys State program in 1979, culminating in the selection of two Boys Staters being honored to attend the National Boys Nation program.

The American Legion Boys Nation program, a detailed study of the function of the federal government, was conducted at American University, Washington, D.C., from July 20-28.

At Boys Nation, delegates visit federal agencies where they receive briefings on the functions of the various departments of the federal government, following which they themselves conduct hearings, act on bills in session and culminate their activities with an election of a Boys Nation President and Vice President.

Highlights of the Boys Nation program are visits by the Boys Nation delegates with their respective United States Senators and Congressmen and the traditional visit to the White House to meet with the President of the United States.

Boys Nation serves as a unique governmental training program for the delegates and motivates their interest and concern in the federal governmental process.

Scouting U.S.A.

Representing The American Legion's vital interest in the Scouting program, David E. Gregory, an 18-year-old high school senior from Ciudad Satelite, Mexico, sponsored by Alan Seeger Post No. 2 of Mexico City, has been named The American Legion Scout of the Year for 1979.

Oratorical

The Forty-Second Annual National High School Oratorical Contest finals were conducted Friday, April 27, 1979, at El Reno, Oklahoma. Fifty-two Departments of The American Legion participated in the Oratorical program, and the four National Finalists selected from thousands competing in the contest were:

- FIRST PLACE — \$8,000 Scholarship
Fernando Baell, Jr., Lafayette Hill, Pennsylvania
- SECOND PLACE — \$5,000 Scholarship
Bruce A. Menin, Miami Beach, Florida
- THIRD PLACE — \$3,000 Scholarship
Jeffrey R. Bragalone, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas
- FOURTH PLACE — \$2,000 Scholarship
Paul T. Yarbrough, Las Cruces, New Mexico

The American Legion Life Insurance Trust Fund also awards a \$500 scholarship to each department winner who participates in the regional contest, for a total of \$44,000 in scholarships awarded annually to recipients at the national level. To date, \$630,000 in scholarship awards have been provided from this source. Additionally, scholarships are awarded at the post, district and department levels.

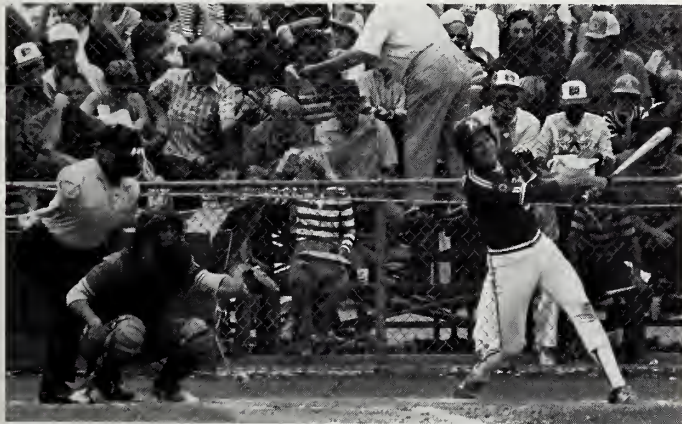
Education Activities

American Education Week, co-sponsored by The American Legion since 1921, will be observed November 11-17, 1979. The theme, "TEACH ALL THE CHILDREN," emphasizes the role which The American Legion/American Legion Auxiliary can and should play in bringing about a revitalization in education as a preparation for the world of work and a training ground for young people in active, responsible citizenship.

Participation, this past Spring, in The National Association of Secondary School Principals and The American Personnel and Guidance Association's National Conventions reaffirmed the fact that our financial source book, "NEED A LIFT?," is serving an important role for young people. High school counselors, nationwide, look to "NEED A LIFT?" as a basic tool in their work with young people. "A Guide for Parents and Students" and other publications continue to be in demand by individuals as well as Posts and Units.

Along with the two objective areas mentioned above, American Education Week promotion and Financial Aids Assistance, we still continue our emphasis on citizenship education. Above all, our dedication to practicing good citizenship as an example should be forever continued.

The American Legion's increased involvement in career education is the latest in a long line of school activities members of this great organization are a part of. Career education is simply teaching school-age children about the world of work. New and exotic curriculums are not necessary as teachers use many sources to show how the course subject relates to the world of work. American Legion involvement is described in much more detail in the Post Auxiliary Community Together (PACT) Booklet recently revised and available from Departments.



American Legion Baseball is one of the high profile youth programs of The American Legion. Now in its 54th year as a national program of The American Legion, there were 3,667 teams certified for championship competition during the 1978 season. Major league stars by the score have come up through the ranks of American Legion Baseball, and the active rosters of this year's major league teams contain more than fifty-four percent American Legion Baseball graduates. The above action scene is from the 1978 American Legion World Series in Yakima, Washington.

Baseball

American Legion Baseball is culminating its 54th season of nationwide competition as this convention convenes. Eight regional champions from among the approximately 4,000 teams fielded by American Legion Posts and other sponsors are being determined throughout the country this week in preparation for the 1979 World Series at Greenville, Mississippi, August 30-September 3.

Ross Jones, Hialeah, Florida, infielder, was the 1978 American Legion Baseball Player of the Year. He was honored at Baseball's Hall of Fame at Cooperstown, New York, August 6. Ronald Ames Guidry of the New York Yankees was cited by National Commander John M. Carey on August 3 as the program's Graduate of the Year for his accomplishments on the field and his service to his community's youth off the field.

More than fifty-four per cent of all major league baseball players last season gained training and experience in the Legion program before they signed their first professional contract. More and more participants are realizing college educations as a result of scholarships granted following exposure in this athletic activity first sponsored by The American Legion in 1925.

COUNTER-SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

Leo F. Malloy (Massachusetts), Chairman

The Counter-Subversive Activities program comes under the jurisdiction of the Americanism and Children & Youth Division of The American Legion. It reports to the Counter-Subversive Activities Committee, consisting of a chairman, vice chairman, national commander's representative, three consultants and fifteen members. This Committee submits a detailed report to the National Americanism Commission at its Spring, National Convention and Fall Meetings concerning this phase of Americanism. At all of these meetings, it is responsible for furnishing background information on the many resolutions which are assigned to it, prior to presentation to the National Americanism Commission for recommended action to the National Executive Committee and to the National Convention.

The American Legion believes that an enlightened and informed citizenry is the greatest deterrent to subversive influences within the United States of America. Thus, the chief function of its Counter-Subversive Activities Program is the publishing of *Firing Line*. This monthly publication has subscribers in every state and many foreign countries. Its purpose is to keep Legionnaires and citizens of this country informed concerning what is transpiring in the realm of Communism, Nazism, subversion, terrorism and plans for revolution.

During the past year, emphasis was placed on terrorism, both domestic and worldwide. That terrorism, either

international or the home grown variety, will soon strike at the very heart of the United States is no longer being denied; it is actually being predicted. Current reports indicate that the United States will experience major terrorist attacks beginning within the next 18 months and will persist for many years thereafter. It is expected that an epidemic of European-style political violence will break out in the United States and the FBI, with its hands virtually tied by restrictions, can't do much to prevent it under these conditions.

The FBI has admitted that the number of FBI informants in terrorist and terrorist support organizations has declined since 1976 from 1,100 to less than 100. In a speech he made in Atlanta in May of last year, FBI Director William Webster said that the FBI currently has only 42 informants in the "domestic security and terrorism area."

It is felt that targets in this country will include electrical power facilities, fuel depots, petroleum processing plants and commercial airliners. Ever mindful of the abduction and subsequent murder of Aldo Moro, there is fear that this country can expect to experience a rash of similar incidents.

While federal officials are extremely wary of inducing public alarm, the picture they paint is, nonetheless, one of increasing vulnerability to terrorist attack and of inadequate preparation for dealing with it.

To be informed, every Legionnaire and member of the Auxiliary should subscribe to *Firing Line*.

CHILDREN & YOUTH COMMISSION



Earl D. Franklin, Jr. (Colorado), Chairman
Ray Patterson (Iowa), Director

The many problems facing youth today are constantly being explored by your National Commission on Children & Youth. We have continued to reach out in areas of concern which are ever changing. Many of the problems of yesterday may well be with us for some time. The severity of some have been compounded by the changes in our society, the complications of our daily lives. The National Commission is aware of this. It is moving to effectively confront these changing problems of young people.

The theme for this year's Children & Youth program, "A Children & Youth Adventure — Moving in New Directions," was more than just an idea. It was encouragement. It

was once again a challenge to our volunteers to reach out and do. And they did. Our volunteers, through the years, have accepted the challenge, they have fulfilled obligations, and have confronted many problems of the young. But this year, 1978-79, they have gone beyond that. They have ventured in new directions, again displaying their concern for the future of our children.

At the annual Spring meeting in Indianapolis, your Commission selected three major points of emphasis for nationwide involvement by Posts, Units, and Salons of the Eight and Forty. With more than 20-million youngsters not properly immunized against childhood diseases, the Commission was intent on reducing the number of those youngsters without medical protection. Immunization was selected as the first point of emphasis. With one year of program time already given it, child abuse and neglect was again selected as an area in which Children & Youth volunteers could have a profound influence. Public awareness and reduction in the number of incidents of child abuse that go unreported was given great attention. The problems of the juvenile delinquent affect not only that individual, but every community across this nation. Realizing this, the National Commission confronted yet another problem area to young people — "The Disruptive Youth," and established it as the third point of emphasis for the program year.

While the points of emphasis are usually directed to problems that are particularly prominent at a given time, there are two programs which for many years have received the constant attention of the Children & Youth worker. The Temporary Financial Assistance program and the program to "Make Halloween a Safe and Fun Night" have carried through the years with emphasis again in 1978.



Earl D. Franklin, Jr., of Sterling, Colo. (left), Chairman of The American Legion Children & Youth Commission, offers American Legion testimony before the United States Senate Subcommittee on Child and Human Development of the Committee on Human Resources as the Subcommittee considers the Child Care Act of 1979. Accompanying Chairman Franklin to the hearing is Paul Frinthal, Deputy Director, Americanism — Children & Youth Division.

This year the challenge was placed by the Commission to move in new directions. No greater display of this desire to reach out was seen anywhere other than in the Special Olympics. Your Commission is exceptionally excited about this program that serves the community, state and nation by serving the mentally retarded. No other project or program of Children & Youth has caught the imagination of our members as this has. The acceptance and participation by Posts and Units everywhere has assured us that this will be the benchmark of progress within The American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary.

Last year marked the Fiftieth Anniversary of Area Conferences on Children & Youth. These conferences continue to be a major source of support and instruction for the programs and projects of your Commission on Children & Youth. This past year, conferences were held in Denver, Colorado; Savannah, Georgia; Providence, Rhode Island; Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; and Topeka, Kansas. Without reservation, every one of the conferences reflected well the concern and desire to participate by hundreds of individuals in each area. The interest continues to grow. We will continue to serve the youth of this nation through the concept of the Regional Seminars. This excellent opportunity for volunteers to meet and exchange program ideas will be a stabilizing factor for assuring the effectiveness of the entire Children & Youth program.

The reporting year 1977-78 concluded with the initial use of the Post Narrative Report. This form was responsible for increased reporting in program participation, expenditures of man-hours and dollars by the Posts of The American Legion. Partially attributable to the use of the Post Narrative Report was an increase in financial expenditures in excess of four million dollars over the year before. With the use of the Consolidated Post Report, combined with the Post Narrative Report, we realized a figure of over 18 million dollars being used for Children & Youth work around the Legion world. The total monies spend by Posts, Units and Salons of the Eight and Forty since the beginning of The American Legion's Children & Youth program in 1920 exceed \$372 million. The Post Narrative Report Form has proved of great assistance in more closely evaluating the effectiveness of the Legion's program in Children & Youth and will again be used for this year's reporting period.

The need for strong support of federal legislation affecting our children remains one of the first concerns of the



Special Olympics at all levels is an experience reflecting courage, skill and love. Your support of this program has helped many retarded individuals share in such an experience. THANK YOU!

Commission. Over the last year, we have reaffirmed our position on many issues to include catastrophic illness among children, comprehensive health care for children and youth and the immunization program of The American Legion. Receiving the most attention, however, was the Child Care Act of 1979. Both the National Commission on Children & Youth and the National Executive Committee were solicited for the mandate necessary to support Senate Bill No. 4.

The Children & Youth program of The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary and the Eight and Forty annually sets many important goals. Although these goals may be different, each is reached for with one purpose in mind — "A Square Deal for Every Child." Your Commission on Children & Youth and the estimated 50,000 volunteers throughout the Legion and Auxiliary don't simply believe in this slogan — they practice it.

AMERICAN LEGION CHILD WELFARE FOUNDATION, INC.

Walton D. Griffin (Tennessee), President
Paul R. Frinthal (Illinois), Executive Secretary

Your American Legion Child Welfare Foundation continues to be an advocate for the children and youth of this country. As a separate corporation from The American Legion, your Foundation — since its incorporation in 1954 — has made grants totaling over \$700,000. These grants have been made to non-profit, youth-oriented agencies and organizations across this nation. To qualify for such grants, projects must fall into one of the following categories:

- 1) To add to the sum total of man's knowledge about children and youth through research and study; and
- 2) To make the best possible use of such knowledge through wider distribution.

Since its beginning 25 years ago, the Foundation has received approximately one million dollars in contributions, primarily from members of The American Legion, the American Legion Auxiliary and the Eight and Forty. The Foundation has always been of the opinion that it is better to prevent many of the physical and social ills confronting our nation's youth than to try to correct the problem after it has already occurred. The Child Welfare Foundation became an official part of The American Legion's Children & Youth program in 1956.

On April 29, 1979, the Foundation's Board of Directors met in Indianapolis to consider 19 applications for grants which totaled \$269,000. These grant requests were made from all parts of the country, and they represented many excellent programs to benefit the children and youth of this nation. During this meeting, grants totaling \$58,450 were awarded to seven voluntary, non-profit organizations who are actively engaged in helping our younger generation. Without the continued support of The American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary, such assistance would not be possible.

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMISSION



William M. Detweiler (Louisiana), Chairman
Frederick Woodworth (District of Columbia), Director

The current American Legion year which began with the ending of the National Convention in New Orleans, got off to a fast start as the Public Relations Division realized excellent results from news coverage of the Convention.

The appearance of General John Singlaub, former Commander of the U.S. troops in South Korea, and Illinois Congressman Phillip Crane, the first announced candidate for his party's nomination for the presidency in the 1980 elections, were well covered in the media.

We had the pleasure of hosting a CBS network crew from Atlanta which filmed a special short feature on the Vietnam veteran and veterans organizations, specifically The American Legion. This feature was aired by the network while we were in New Orleans. Additionally, the Distinguished Service Award presentation to Dr. Rosalyn Yalow and the election of National officers received extensive coverage.

The Public Relations Division took on a new face this year in the appointment of a new director and a new chairman. Under their leadership and guidance, the Division's thrust assumed a supportive position of total cooperation with all program divisions in assisting in telling the Legion story. As an expression of this supportive effort, a Public Relations representative was provided as a speaker at each of the regional Membership Workshops last fall.

A telephone answering device, known as a "Code-a-phone," connected to an in-bound WATS line, providing a recorded American Legion message for use by TV and radio news rooms throughout the nation, has been installed in the Indianapolis office. As a result we are able to provide news releases for TV and radio in a timely, more efficient manner.



As chief executive officer and principal spokesman for The American Legion, a major part of the National Commander's duties involve "meeting the press." Here National Commander Carey (right) is shown being interviewed by correspondent John Hart of Stars & Stripes in the Commander's Washington office.

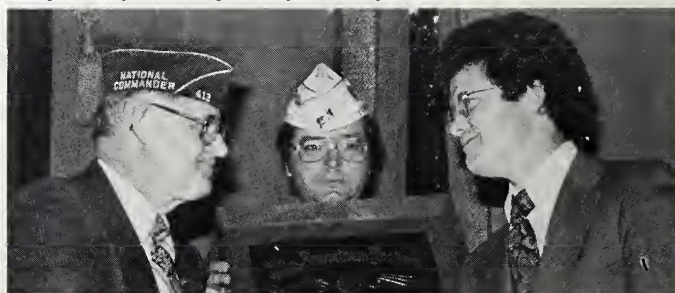
As an example, Commander Carey was on his Far East tour at the time that the White House announced plans to recognize the Communist government of mainland China at the expense of our long time friends and allies of Taiwan. Following the White House announcement on Friday evening, Commander Carey was contacted in the Philippines and his statement was released through our Code-a-phone the following morning.

Through a \$20,000 print and broadcast media program, a news kit containing public service spot announcements featuring celebrity voices, was provided to every radio station in the country in observance of the 60th Anniversary of The American Legion. In addition, more than 4,000 newspaper, magazine and other print outlets were supplied with clip sheet cartoons and photographs on the 60th Anniversary story. The response through survey cards returned to our offices indicated excellent results and good usage of the kits around the country.

In spite of the weather that hampered much of the conference proceedings, we had a most productive Washington Conference Public Relations Commission meeting and luncheon. Mr. James Webb, a decorated Marine of the Vietnam War, former minority counsel to the House Committee on Veterans Affairs and author of the book, "Fields of Fire," proved to be a most popular recipient of the National Commander's Public Relations Award.

The luncheon also featured the presentation by National Commander Carey of the American Legion's gift of \$60,000 to the Pershing Memorial Development Fund. General Maxwell Taylor (USA, Ret.), the honorary chairman of the fund, accepted the presentation.

We participated in the promotion of Vietnam Veterans Week, May 28-June 3, a special week established by Congress and proclaimed by the President in tribute to those Americans whose service to their country has never been fully recognized by the general public.



National Commander John M. Carey presented The American Legion National Commander's Public Relations Award for 1979 to James H. Webb, Jr., (right) during the Public Relations luncheon at the 1979 Washington Conference. A highly decorated Marine veteran of Vietnam service, Webb was recognized for his book, "Fields of Fire," which graphically portrays the conditions under which the Vietnam era veteran fought, and for his service as minority counsel to the House Committee on Veterans Affairs. Assisting Commander Carey with the presentation is National Public Relations Commission Chairman William M. Detweiler.

Support for this special week dedicated to Vietnam Veterans included production by the Public Relations Division of a suggested speech for American Legion speakers, production of special public service announcements for radio and television usage as well as news releases and suggested editorials. A news release, news conference and photo coverage of VA Administrator Max Cleland's visit to Indianapolis, hosted by The American Legion, were handled by Public Relations in support of American Legion's backing of Vietnam Veterans Week.

We have also been involved in the production of a film explaining the origin and meaning of Veterans Day which will be made available for use in schools and before general audiences beginning this fall.

As a matter of course, we provided on site support to the finals of the National High School Oratorical Contest, American Legion Boys Nation, and are planning to do the same for the World Series of American Legion Baseball. Further, the Public Relations Division will participate in each of the planned eight regional leadership conferences to be held in September and October of this year.

A first was realized during the Spring NEC meetings when local Indianapolis TV and radio stations provided live on the spot coverage of the National Executive Committee in session in connection with the issue involving the Administration's proposal to re-draft veterans. Media interest was generated as a result of legislative activity concerning the registration of 18 year-old youths.

In an effort to make the Public Relations Division more supportive and to provide maximum assistance to the Program Divisions of The American Legion, the office of the Director of the Public Relations Division has been relocated from the Washington Office to the Indianapolis home office. We, of course, will continue to maintain a highly professional and effective Public Relations staff in our Washington offices. This change is seen as a step forward in making the Public Relations Division more responsive to the needs of the Program Divisions to provide total support in the years ahead.



The American Legion's Fourth Estate Award for outstanding public service in the field of communications is presented to Mort Walker on the platform of the 1978 National Convention by then National Commander Robert Charles Smith. Walker, creator of the Beetle Bailey cartoon strip, was honored along with cartoonist Milt Caniff, creator of the Steve Canyon syndicated cartoon. Both men are syndicated by King Features.

FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMISSION



Joseph H. Ellinwood (Massachusetts), Chairman
Frank A. Manson, Assistant Director for Foreign Relations

Changes in U.S. foreign policies during the past year have intensified The American Legion's efforts to support mandates approved by the National Convention in 1978.

U.S. -People's Republic of China Relations

On December 15, 1978, President Carter announced "normalization" of relations between the United States and Mainland China. The U.S. had given in on the top three conditions requested by the Communist controlled mainland. First, the United States must withdraw its diplomatic recognition of the Republic of China on Taiwan. Second, the United States must withdraw all its military forces from Taiwan. Third, the United States would recognize henceforth only one China.

The American Legion was mandated to support normalization of relations with Mainland China but not at the expense of the Republic of China on Taiwan, the island government known as Free China.

National Commander John Carey was visiting Legion Posts in the Far East when the "normalization" announcement was made in Washington. From Manila, Commander Carey issued a strong protest to the press. The American Legion opposed any action by the U.S. government which threatened Taiwan's political independence, economic viability or military security against outside threats.

National Commander Carey and Chairman Ellinwood visited Taiwan as did former National Commander Robert Charles Smith, both to ascertain the facts and to provide Legion support for Taiwan's position.

As the China-Taiwan issue was debated in Congress, the National Commander sent a letter to NECmen, Department Commanders, Adjutants and Legislative Chairmen requesting action be initiated to coordinate department-wide communications with U.S. Senators and Representatives advising them of the Legion's position. His letter stated:

"We remain unalterably opposed to any action by the U.S. government which threatens the political independence of Taiwan, which endangers Taiwan's economic prosperity, or which fails to guarantee the military security of Taiwan against outside threats.

Taiwan is a first rank strategic asset of the free world. Taiwan is an essential link in the island chain running from northern Japan, southward through Okinawa, and the Philippines. The airfields and harbors on Taiwan were used by U.S. aircraft and ships during the Korean War and the Vietnam War as staging areas and for repairs and supplies. Taiwan continues to resupply the U.S. Seventh Fleet and our Air Force with food and fuel at economical prices and at a savings to the U.S. taxpayer. The United States needs proven allies such as Taiwan as never before. We need their friendship and active support in times of international stress.

Taiwan is one of the top ten trading partners of the United States. Last year the total business between our two countries exceeded \$6.0 billion. Taiwan has approximately \$9.0 billion invested in the United States and some of America's largest banks have extended over \$2.0 billion credit to borrowers on the island. Taiwan's continued economic prosperity is in the best national interest of the United States.

But more than anything else, Taiwan stands as a symbol of success and prosperity, a nation that has emulated the United States system and practices the free enterprise system as opposed to the Communist-Marxist system.

The American Legion urges a national policy which will (1) guarantee to Taiwan a government-to-government relationship, the same type enjoyed by Mainland China prior to normalization; (2) guarantee a continuation of Taiwan's most favored nation trading status as one of the United States' principal partners; (3) guarantee against economic boycott; (4) guarantee by binding agreement the military security of Taiwan, including the sale of high performance aircraft and other needed U.S. military equipment.

Please initiate action by posts and individuals at once, and send your own messages to the Members of Congress."



T. Y. Chao (center), Chairman, Vocational Assistance Commission for Retired Servicemen, Republic of China on Taiwan, shares news conference at American Legion National Headquarters with National Commander John M. Carey to discuss hopes for continued warm relationships between the governments of the United States and the Republic of China on Taiwan despite "normalization" of relations between the United States and the communist government on the mainland of China. Chao's aide and interpreter is seated beside him during the January, 1979, meeting at Indianapolis Headquarters.

Following President Carter's "normalization" announcement, U.S. foreign policy ran into extreme turbulence. In Iran, the Shah was forced into exile. U.S. diplomatic officials were besieged in their own Embassy and Iran bustled with anti-American propaganda. The most important item, "oil," was shut off for an extended period, creating fuel shortages in numerous countries including the United States. Among other factors stirring the Iranian people were thousands of communist-trained agents from Afghanistan who had inundated Iran with posters, shouters and sharpshooters.

Further exacerbating the Middle East situation in Afghanistan, American Ambassador Adolph Dubs was assassinated when, according to press reports, Soviet advisors to Afghan Army police stormed the hideout where kidnappers held Ambassador Dubs.

Neither Jordan nor Saudi Arabia seemed happy with President Carter's peace mission to Israel and Egypt. Future historians will record the peaks and valleys of this volatile relationship.

The American Legion's position continues to support friendly relations with the Persian Gulf states because oil importation remains an economic imperative for U.S. industrial solvency.

To further complicate U.S. foreign policy, Red China's Vice Premier Teng Hsiao-ping paid a state visit to the United States and used that occasion to attack what he called "hegemony" policies of the Soviet Union. Hegemony is a Red Chinese buzz word for Soviet expansionism and eventual world domination by the Soviet brand of Communism, not the Chinese. Shortly after the Teng visit, Mainland China invaded Vietnam to teach its Communist neighbor a lesson for having invaded Communist-governed Cambodia, a "client state" of Red China.

U.S.-Soviet Relations and SALT II

While limited storms touched down in the Far East and Middle East, U.S. and Soviet relations continued relatively calmly, each government urging passage of a SALT II Treaty which, according to the advocates, would presage an era of limitations on strategic arms.



Chief Jeremiah Chirau, president of the Council of Chiefs, leader of the tribesmen of Rhodesia and a member of the Rhodesian Senate, appears before the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in session at National Headquarters in Indianapolis in the fall of 1978, to outline the military and political situation as it existed at the time in the important African nation.

The U.S. Senate was much more divided on the SALT II Treaty than on the give-away and pay-away of the Panama Canal. Numerous briefings and conferences were held between The American Legion's officials and State Department and Congressional leaders. The American Legion's leaders remained dubious about ways and means to verify the Soviet Union's compliance with the terms of the Treaty. Moreover, SALT II fails to contain the growth of SS20s (Mobile ICBMs) and Backfire (Intercontinental) bombers. SALT II results notwithstanding, the competition between the United States and the Soviet Union continued with Soviet leaders believing their self-styled communist dictatorship superior to capitalism. Free nations remained on the defensive trying to persuade people that freedom was better than slavery. Soviet leaders continued to acquire U.S. credits to buy U.S. technology, as Mainland China intends doing, for the eventual purpose of surpassing the U.S. economy.

The Soviet regime has never renounced its desire for "hegemony" or world domination. U.S. Senators visiting Moscow recently reported that Soviet leaders seemed self-confident to the point of arrogance in their campaign to liberate capitalistic and free enterprise nations. If it were not so serious, the super-power competition would appear ludicrous. With people running from Communism wherever it exists, the propaganda war should be easily won by free nations.

Southern Africa

The American Legion continued its support of Rhodesia's internal settlement, and South Africa's efforts to establish a non-communist government in Southwest Africa, Namibia.

Western Hemisphere

The American Legion urged the House of Representatives to refuse funds paid by U.S. taxpayers to implement the Panama Canal treaties. Furthermore, The American Legion opposes cooperative policies with Cuba as long as Cuba is involved in communist expansion.

NATO

The American Legion continues to support NATO and weapons systems which are qualitatively superior to those held by Warsaw Pact forces.



National Commander John M. Carey visits with officers of the United States Southern Command in the Panama Canal Zone during his visit to that "hot spot" in the Western Hemisphere shortly after the 1979 Washington Conference.

NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION



Albert D. Brown, Jr. (Texas), Chairman
Mylio S. Kraja (Ohio), Director

The National Legislative Commission's primary mission is to implement the legislative mandates of The American Legion before the Congress of the United States on all legislative matters in which the Legion is interested. These resolutions are adopted at either a National Convention or meetings of the National Executive Committee.

The Legislative Commission does not set policy for The American Legion. The Commission, through its Washington, D.C., legislative staff, concentrates its efforts on carrying out Legion objectives. Through the National Legislative News Bulletin and other Legion publications, the Commission attempts to keep the membership of The American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary abreast of congressional activity affecting the veteran and his family.

The 95th Congress adjourned "sine die" on October 15, 1978, and The American Legion feels that Congress again demonstrated its continuing commitment to veterans and their survivors through passage of meaningful legislation. Senator Alan Simpson of Wyoming referred to 1978 as "the year of the veteran," and indeed it was. There were approximately 24,000 bills and resolutions introduced in the 95th Congress but only 633 were signed into law by President Carter. We are pleased to report that 125 of the new laws satisfied, in part or whole, resolutions adopted by The American Legion. The Legion, which presented more than 100 statements to numerous Congressional committees



National Commander John M. Carey presents The American Legion's Legislative Award to Congressman James Hanley, of New York, for Hanley's invaluable efforts in retaining veterans preference in federal employment in the Civil Service Reform Act of 1978.

during the 95th Congress, played an active role in the passage of much of that legislation. Among the public laws emerging from the 95th Congress of special interest to The American Legion were the following:

The Veterans and Survivors Pension Improvement Act of 1978 completely reformed the veterans pension program by automatically indexing cost-of-living increases to the Consumer Price Index, assuring that all pensioners will have an income standard above the poverty level, and providing a substantial increase in the yearly rates for needy World War I veterans.

The Veterans Disability Compensation and Survivors Benefits Act of 1978, among other things, provided for a 7.3% increase in veterans disability compensation and DIC programs, extended the dependent's allowance to veterans rated 30% or more disabled, and substantially increased benefits for certain severely disabled veterans, such as multiple amputees and those needing special medical aides.

The Civil Service Reform Act of 1978 essentially retained veterans preference in federal employment without change, and in some respects strengthened the benefit.

The GI Bill Improvement Act of 1977 provided for a 6.6% increase in GI education and training allowances and made other improvements in the GI bill.

The Veterans Administration Program Extension Act of 1978 extended certain VA health care programs in the Philippines, extended the VA Physicians and Dentists Comparability Act to 1981, and authorized \$5 million to implement the new pension program for needy wartime veterans who are totally disabled from nonservice-connected causes or who are 65 or older.

The Child Abuse Prevention Act satisfied two Legion resolutions by funding the fight against the sexual abuse and exploitation of children and by setting up a national adoption information center.

The Veterans Housing Benefits Act of 1978 increased the VA home loan guarantee to \$25,000, increased the specially

adapted housing grants for severely disabled veterans to \$30,000, and restructured the mobile home loan guarantee program.

Thus far in the 96th Congress the Legion has been actively engaged in a number of crucial issues, especially the fight over the proposed cut in the VA's medical budget. The OMB instructed the VA to cut 7,000 positions in existing hospitals and outpatient clinics during the current fiscal year, even though the 95th Congress mandated about \$55 million to increase staffing by 2,375. The Administration, adding insult to injury, has not only ignored Congressional mandates but has targeted another 1,650 position cutbacks in FY 1980. The Legion has strongly urged Congress to make sure the Administration targets funds for FY 1979 for the purposes intended by Congress and include funds in the FY 1980 budget to insure the continuation of ongoing programs with sufficient staffing and equipment.

We have also urged Congress to approve a needed cost-of-living hike in benefits for our service disabled, and additional improvements in the GI education program. The Legion has had legislation (H.R. 2057) introduced by Representative Ray Roberts, which provides for a special pension program for World War I veterans. We have also emphasized our support for additional national cemeteries.

In the field of foreign affairs, the Legion has concentrated its efforts on the SALT II treaty, insisting that any agreement ratified by the Senate not place the U.S. in an inferior status. We have also endeavored to persuade Congress to lift the sanctions on Rhodesia, and supported legislation providing for strict Congressional control of future Canal operations in Panama.

With regard to economic matters, our major concerns have been the retention and improvement of veterans employment in the federal service; adequate funding for the Veterans Employment Service; and improvement in existing employment programs administered by the Department of Labor.



Part of the function of the National Legislative Division is to arrange for meetings between American Legion leaders and Congressional leaders on subjects in which the Legion has a mandated concern. Here Commander Carey confers with Senator Henry (Scoop) Jackson, and the influential senator is an expert in several areas of American Legion concern, two of which are national security and energy.



The nature of the work of the National Legislative Division brings the Legion into frequent, close contact with Senator Alan Cranston, of California, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs, shown here welcoming National Commander Carey to his offices.

The Legion has, as always, taken an active part in national security issues. In addition to advocating increased defense spending, we have focused on the military doctor shortage and called for increased attention to civil defense and revitalization of the Selective Service System.

In the social field, we have expressed a strong support for S. 4 — the Child Care Act of 1979 — which would provide federal financial assistance for child care to certain families with working parents.

Thus in the 96th Congress, as in past congresses, the Legion continues to pursue a broad legislative program in support of its mandates. The Legislative Commission is determined to insure that in the present Congress the Legion's legislative program will be equally successful.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

William D. Jackson (Indiana), Executive Director

The Executive Director, whose office is located in the National Headquarters, Indianapolis, has four major responsibilities.

1) He performs such duties as may be assigned to him by the National Adjutant to assist in meeting the myriad responsibilities of that office and, during temporary absences of the National Adjutant from the Headquarters, acts for him.

2) He heads the Administrative Services Division and through it supervises and coordinates the many administrative functions of the Indianapolis Headquarters.

3) He serves on the Personnel Committee of the Headquarters; the National Retirement Committee and the Publications Advisory Board.

4) He coordinates EDP-Computer operations whose manager reports to the Executive Director, through the Assistant Publisher of *The American Legion Magazine*.

Included in the Administrative Services Division of the Indianapolis Headquarters are the following administrative functions: Cashier; mail; printing; purchasing, graphic arts; general supply . . . stock, receiving, shipping; Library, Archives, E. A. Blackmore Museum; Communications Center; building maintenance, cafeteria; personnel records and recruitment; Finance section and Insurance section.

The Administrative Services Division also provides all secretarial assistance to the executive officers of The American Legion.

Computer Center

The EDP-Computer Center is currently responsible for the following programs:

Updating of *The American Legion Magazine*, *SAL*, *Firing Line*, *Advance*, and *Legislative Bulletin* mailing lists; and the printing of mailing labels and renewal notices.

Production of direct membership renewal notices and registers.

The production of membership cards and registers, department accounting reports and statistical information.

The printing of state paper mailing labels, upon request.

The maintenance of inventory controls, purchasing controls and billing applications for The American Legion Emblem Division.

Emblem Sales invoices and reports.

Production of all general ledger accounting information.

All payroll reports and affiliated tax and insurance reports.

Maintenance of the mailing list and automated grading for the Extension Institute.

Production of audit control and circulation analysis reports for *The American Legion Magazine*.

Production of inventory control and purchase order control of National Headquarters.

Accounts receivable.

Retirement Investment program.

Furniture and Fixtures inventory and depreciation reports.

ECONOMIC COMMISSION



Al Keller, Jr. (Illinois), Chairman
Austin E. Kerby (Maryland), Director

Last year, the Economic Commission and its two affiliated committees, Employment and Veterans' Preference, called upon all Legionnaires to inform their representatives in Congress of their total opposition to any modification of veterans' preference in Federal employment. The Legion's voice was heard. Veterans preference continued virtually unchanged in the Civil Service Reform Act of 1979, with thanks to Congressman James Hanley of New York, who introduced the successful amendment.

Dr. Alan K. Campbell, now Director, Office of Personnel Management, in speaking to the Economic Commission at the 1979 Washington Conference, reported that he and the Administration are still dedicated to seeking legislation to restrict the use of veterans preference, asking for Legion support. The American Legion remains on record as being firmly opposed to any legislation that will weaken veterans preference.

The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) is now delegating personnel functions to the agencies. It is difficult to predict how the rights of veterans will be observed under this delegation of authority. Dr. Campbell pledged to The American Legion that the OPM and the Merit Systems Protection Board will "effectively enforce and carry out all the provisions" of the new law, but the question is, what message will get through to the agencies with the Administration campaigning heavily against veterans.

Although veterans preference was urgent, eighteen of the twenty-five economic resolutions approved at the 1978 National Convention related to employment programs in the Department of Labor. The need for a full Assistant Secretary of Labor for Veterans Employment, as the Legion has long advocated, is illustrated by the cavalier treatment by the Department of the position of Deputy Assistant Secretary for Veterans Employment (DASVE). The first DASVE resigned after nine months. Then the job was left unfilled for eight months, during which time there was no Director, Veterans Employment Service, to take on the day-to-day supervision. As soon as Dr. Dennis Wyant was confirmed by the Senate and sworn in by Secretary of Labor Marshall, he was slapped with a drastic cut in funds and staff, mainly concentrated in a cut of fifty-two secretaries in the VES field staff, all of whom are women. This is especially ironic in view of the Administration's rhetoric about hiring women. This cut in staff was strenuously opposed by the Economic Commission — both to the Administration and to Congress when testifying before the Senate and House Appropriations Committees, and in oversight hearings before the House and Senate Veterans Affairs Committees.

While job placement of veterans through the 2,400 local employment offices has improved somewhat, principally because of the Disabled Veterans Outreach Program, there is still a big job ahead. There are approximately one million

jobless veterans of all wars, of whom about half are Vietnam-era veterans, with an unemployment rate of 16.6 percent as of April 1979 for the youngest group.

Promptly after his election, National Commander John Carey pledged his full support of our "Jobs for Veterans" program, which continues as a priority program of The American Legion.

In our continued effort to improve employment opportunities for all war veterans — the Vietnam era veteran who needs training, the handicapped and older worker of earlier wars who are encountering employment difficulties due to age and outmoded skills — "National Employ the Handicapped Week" was observed October 1-7, 1978, and "Employ the Older Worker Week," March 11-17, 1979, and, for the tenth year, the Economic Commission selected two outstanding employers of veterans to be presented the Legion's "National Employer of the Year Award for Hiring Veterans." The latter program has assisted immeasurably in our total "Jobs for Veterans" efforts.

Traditionally, and in agreement with current mandates and policy, The American Legion through its Economic Commission continues active, cooperative support of the State Employment Security Agencies with accountability for funds for employment services to veterans; the GI home loan program as administered by the VA; the United States Savings Bond Program; the Farmers Home Administration; the Small Business Administration; and various other



National Commander John M. Carey meets with Secretary of Labor Ray Marshall to discuss employment programs for veterans administered by the Department of Labor.



Al Keller, Jr., Chairman of the National Economic Commission, chats with Alan K. Campbell, director, United States Office of Personnel Management.



The American Legion's Employer-of-the-Year awards, a recognition of employers with outstanding records for employment of veterans, are presented for 1978 to W. T. Johnson, of the Dolese Company, Oklahoma City, Okla. (left), and George Ertel, of the Blackmon Oil Company, Columbus, Ga., by then National Commander Robert Charles Smith, on the platform of the 1978 National Convention.

programs and activities which are too numerous to mention, but which have a direct or indirect relationship to the economic well being of all veterans.

Legislative and administrative efforts and accomplishments are important to the economic welfare of veterans. Nevertheless, we are ever cognizant that the staff's direct service to the individual veteran, his dependents and his survivors, continues to be a most important responsibility and function of the Economic Commission.

CONVENTION COMMISSION



Lawrence E. Hoffman (Florida), Chairman
William H. Miller (Oregon), Director

During the past many years, the primary function of the Convention Commission has been to receive invitations from cities interested in hosting a National Convention, to investigate and inspect the facilities offered, recommend a particular city for a future convention, and supervise the planning and actual operation of the convention itself. The Distinguished Guests Committee and the Contests Supervisory Committee are attached to the Convention Commission and are under its supervision.

Minor difficulties have been plentiful, but major problems have been few and the hotels, restaurants and other facilities in the convention cities have made The American Legion



Detailed arrangements for the National Convention parade, in conjunction with local convention corporation officials, are a part of the National Convention Commission's overall responsibilities. Here, the Jersey Chevrons Color Guard prepares to post the colors on the reviewing stand during the National Convention parade.

welcome with attractive rates and services which have been enjoyed by delegates and guests. Recently, however, this picture has changed in dramatic fashion and the prime activity of the Convention Commission has been directed to securing sufficient hotel rooms at reasonable prices, chaotic negotiating of contracts with hotels that attempt to amend and revise our usual forms, obtaining assurances that meals will be available without steep price increases and making every effort to protect the local Convention Corporation from sustaining a financial loss. A careful analysis by the experts reveals that the cost of conventions is outpacing the rate of inflation and the Convention Commission is exerting its every effort to limit this trend.

It has been estimated that the costs of meetings are rising between 15% and 25% every year. Much of this is due to the rise in the minimum wage which has had a ripple effect on all employees; fixed-price gratuities have climbed; overtime requirements have shrunk; and the increased cost of management recruiting has escalated sharply. As a result, utilities, raw food costs, wages, services and other essentials required to operate a hotel, convention center, stadium and the other essentials for a convention have risen to the point where the prices are going out-of-sight.

Up until the present, the Convention Commission has been successful in having hotels keep housing costs to The American Legion at or below a maximum standard set by the Commission. This feat has become more and more difficult each year and may no longer be possible in the very near future. Great latitude is required by the Commission in this regard and will be utilized carefully.

This year Houston, Texas, the host for the 61st National Convention of The American Legion, has been most cooperative in all respects. The lush green of semi-tropical foliage and the sparkle of a dramatic new skyline should make the "Energy City" the site of a most successful convention. Continental and Creole cuisine, Texas Barbecue, seafood and Mexican specialties are just some of the tastes to be discovered in this city. Legionnaires can enjoy the newly-spawned culture of an emerging metropolis or the down-home nostalgia of the old west, when cowboys rustled cattle and owned the plains. Important and renowned speakers have accepted invitations to address the convention and many states have made arrangements for magnificent parties during the evening hours.

The historical and beautiful city of Boston will host the 1980 convention during a Presidential election year. Then, by popular demand, the 1981 convention will return to the lush, tropical island in the Pacific on which Honolulu is located. In 1982 the convention attendees will enjoy the friendly hospitality of that great city of Chicago. No less than eight cities have extended impressive invitations for 1983, 1984 and 1985, and the Commission will utilize its best negotiating abilities in making its recommendations for those years.

Welcome to Houston and The American Legion's 61st National Convention. Attend the business sessions and the special events and enjoy what this great city has to offer.

CONTESTS SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE

Bruce L. Plumb (Oregon), Chairman
Dennis D. Oxley (Indiana), Liaison

The National Contests Supervisory Committee (NCSC) is to supervise all contests at the National Conventions of The American Legion and is charged with the responsibility to develop and make available information on organization management and other expertise relative to musical organizations.

The NCSC met October 16-17, 1978, at National Headquarters, Indianapolis, Indiana. Rule changes for the 1979 National Contests were made along with the recommendation the entry deadline remain 60 days prior to the contest date.

The NCSC met again on April 29-May 1, 1979, at Indianapolis, Indiana. The contests sites selected for the Houston competition were discussed. Also discussed was a proposal concerning a prospective newsletter, which would publicize articles, photos and information about uniformed groups sponsored by American Legion posts throughout the country.

CONTEST SITES

The Astrodome will be the site of the Musical Spectacular to be held Sunday, August 19, at 7:00 p.m. The Chorus, Quartet and Senior Band competition will be held in the Ballroom of the Astro Village Hotel. The other contests will be held at Delmar Athletic Complex, which will utilize the Delmar Fieldhouse and the Delmar Junior Field.

The eleven categories sponsored by the NCSC are:

Junior Drum Corps	Junior Drill Team
Senior Drum Corps	Senior Drill Team
Junior Color Guard	Junior Field Band
Senior Color Guard	Senior Contest Band
Firing Squad	Chorus & Quartet

1978 DEFENDING NATIONAL CHAMPIONS

Sr. Drum Corps — Westshoremen, Post 272, Lings-town, Pennsylvania

Jr. Drum Corps — Long Island Kingsmen, Post 944, Kings Park, New York

Jr. Color Guard — Buccaneers, Post 1, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Sr. Color Guard — First National Bank, Post 985, Chicago, Illinois

Firing Squad — Berryhill Post 165, Midland, Michigan

Jr. Drill Team — Buccaneers, Post 1, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Sr. Drill Team — Diplomats, Post 180, Milwaukee, Oregon

Sr. Band — Joliet American Legion Band, Post 1284, Joliet, Illinois

Chorus — Singing Legionnaires, Post 15, Sioux Falls, South Dakota

Jr. Field Band — No Contest

Quartet — Happy Warriors, Post 217, Sidney, Ohio

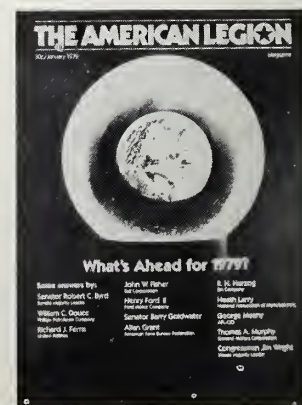
THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE COMMISSION



Milford A. Forrester (South Carolina), Chairman
Bertram G. Davis (New York), Publisher,
The American Legion Magazine

Nineteen-seventy-eight was a momentous year for *The American Legion Magazine*. It was the year that saw the consolidation of the total magazine operation from Washington, D.C., and New York City to Indianapolis, Indiana. The Magazine is now completely Midwest oriented. It is housed in the Midwest, it is printed in the Midwest and its engraving needs have been contracted for in the Midwest. It was a year of intensive recruiting and training of a nearly new magazine staff, and the moving of the printing and mailing operation from Nashville, Tennessee, to Kansas Color Press, Inc. in Lawrence, Kansas. It was the year of the development of the Magazine's "new look" in format and editorial content. It was the year that saw increasing production costs, a continuing paper crunch, and an increase in advertising revenue. It was a busy year, but a good year.

The consolidation of the Magazine offices and the transfer of the printing operation were accomplished with minimum disruption to the production and distribution schedules. The new printer's performance confirmed our expectations, and we have an excellent working relationship.



The American Legion Magazine underwent changes from 1978 to 1979, the most notable being a change in the format. At left is the cover of the November, 1978, issue contrasted with the January, 1979, cover at right. Reaction of readers has been most favorable.

The "new look" of the Magazine, introduced with the January, 1979, issue, is being very well received. We are also pleased with the favorable reaction we are receiving from the "new" editorial look, as well. The Magazine's editorial policy has been revamped so that more emphasis is being given to articles that deal with today's world, as opposed to a heavy emphasis on articles of an historical nature.

The American Legion Magazine concluded 1978 with a budget under-run of some \$116,000. While advertising revenue was up in 1978, production costs increased dramatically due to increased costs in paper, printing and postage.

The cost to produce and distribute the Magazine was \$2.33 per member in 1978. This compares to \$2.03 for the previous year. At the same time, 96 more pages were produced in 1978 than in 1977. Paper costs in 1978 were up about \$500,000, postage costs were \$280,000 more than in 1977, and printing costs were \$50,000 more than in 1977. Advertising revenue showed an increase of \$200,000 over 1977, and subscription revenue was down \$26,000.

The American Legion Magazine is allocated \$1.50 per

member from the national per capita assessment to provide 12 issues of the Magazine. The difference between the per capita assessment and the production and distribution costs of \$2.33 per member is partially offset by the sale of advertising carried in the Magazine.

The American Legion Magazine Commission, by action taken at the New Orleans National Convention in 1978, restructured the advertising sales organization. Effective January 1, 1979, Robert P. Redden Associates, Inc. of New Jersey was named the sole and exclusive publisher's representative for the Magazine. Prior to the change, there were four advertising sales representatives representing the Magazine in diverse geographical locales. Redden Associates, Inc. has been representing the Magazine in the advertising field since 1969.

The American Legion Magazine looks forward to the year ahead with cautious optimism. Our task is to find ways and means to continue to produce a quality magazine despite a seemingly endless inflation spiral. You may be assured that we accept the challenge and with prudent management, we have every confidence we will succeed in our mission.

INTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION



James P. Dean (Mississippi), Chairman
Robert W. Spanogle (Michigan), Director

The National Internal Affairs Commission is responsible for policies relating to the internal structure and operation of The American Legion at all levels. In addition, all resolutions and other official matters not falling within the area of assigned duties of other national commissions or committees are handled by the Internal Affairs Commission.

Four national standing committees are assigned to the commission for "supervision and coordination" — Constitution and By-Laws; Membership and Post Activities; Resolutions Assignment; and Trophies, Awards and Ceremonials. The Internal Affairs Commission is also the supervisory body for the Sons of The American Legion organization, and the commission's full-time staff at National Headquarters in Indianapolis (the Internal Affairs Division) provides staff services for the National Contests Supervisory Committee, which itself reports to the National Convention Commission.

Membership

A report of the Membership and Post Activities

Committee will be found separately in this publication. There have been no changes in the Constitution and By-Laws to expand any eligibility since that which was passed by the 1977 National Convention.

Constitution and By-Laws

The National Constitution and By-Laws can be amended only by action of a National Convention. However, a Constitution and By-Laws Committee does review and make recommendations on all proposed amendments.

Trophies, Awards and Ceremonials

This committee supervises all official national awards (with the exception of those related to uniformed group competitions) and recommends to the National Executive Committee recipients of the Distinguished Service Medal, the International Amity Award and the Canadian Friendship Award. This committee also presents to the National Executive Committee its recommendations for miscellaneous awards that have been made since the last meeting of the National Executive Committee.

Daniel A. Drew (PA), longtime chairman, announced his retirement shortly after the spring meetings held in Indianapolis April 30-May 4, 1979. Dan served most capably as the Chairman of this committee for many years.

Resolutions Assignment

The Resolutions Assignment Committee meets only at the annual National Convention. The committee has the responsibility of assigning all resolutions to the appropriate convention committee for report to the convention. The number of resolutions reviewed and assigned prior to the 1978 National Convention totaled more than 400, which is approximately the usual amount.

Sons of The American Legion

The Sons of The American Legion continued to grow during 1978. Final membership for 1978 totaled 36,050, a gain of 4,044 over the 32,006 final count for 1977. SAL National Conventions are held in conjunction with the National Conventions of The American Legion. The Eighth National Convention will be held in Houston.

Consolidated Post Reports

For the fourth year in a row posts of The American Legion were asked to file a Consolidated Post Report which would allow the national organization to obtain a standard report on all major programs. Forty-four percent of all posts submitted reports. Reporting posts represented slightly over 60% of the total membership with assets in excess of \$345,000,000. Some of the figures were truly outstanding, such as the following: Cost of athletic teams, 3.7 million dollars; aid given to benefit Children and Youth, 5 million dollars; hours given to community service, 2.2 million hours; cost of uniformed groups, 1 million dollars.

The survey conducted in the first half of 1978 concerning the average amount of dues for 12,129 American Legion Posts indicated that the average amount of dues for an American Legion member is \$9.84. Much of the money raised by American Legion Posts is done on a volunteer basis and programs are very rarely supported by the amount of dues collected. This points to one of the great strengths of The American Legion — service work to veterans and children and youth and communities.

PUFL

The PUFL (Paid-Up-For-Life Membership Program) is showing a steady gain in acceptance and participation. Since its beginning in July of 1975, almost 9,000 Legionnaires have utilized the availability of the PUFL Program.

The Energy Policy of The American Legion

The May, 1977, National Executive Committee assigned to the Internal Affairs Commission the primary responsibility for all resolutions concerning energy and environment. A Subcommittee of the Internal Affairs Commission, chaired by J. W. "Bill" Steinsiek (AR) was formed for the purpose of researching all resolutions.

The basic policy of the Energy Subcommittee is one that supports the concept of a national policy to decrease reliance on foreign fossil fuels and to develop our internal energy resources — available and prospective.

The question might be asked, "Why is The American Legion getting involved?" The answer is immediate. Our concern is both national security and the economy of the United States — two of the most basic precepts of The American Legion.

The American Legion and the Internal Affairs Commission has a special distinguished guest at this Convention — Mr. Richard M. Morrow, President, Standard Oil Company (Indiana). Mr. Morrow will be reporting to the National

Convention immediately following the Credentials and Other Internal Matters report to the Convention on Tuesday morning.

The Internal Affairs Commission and their Subcommittee on Energy will hold an open forum panel on energy for all delegates on Monday, August 20, 1979, in Statesman Ballroom "A," Sheraton-Houston Hotel, 1:00-4:00 p.m. Speakers have been invited from the Atomic Industrial Forum, American Petroleum Institute, department of Energy and consumer groups. The American Legion is concerned and can have impact on the energy crisis facing our nation. We believe that the delegates to this Convention should leave better informed than when they came. The agenda for this open discussion will be found elsewhere in this publication.

Vietnam Veterans' Week

The Internal Affairs Commission and the Membership and Post Activities Committee were charged with The American Legion's involvement in Vietnam Veterans' Week, May 28 through June 3. The Commission advised National Commander John M. Carey that The American Legion's involvement should provide two basic objectives — service to the veteran in the form of jobs, education and training and provide an upgrading of the image of the veteran who fought in the Vietnam War. The American Legion firmly believes that the veterans of this particular war served patriotically and effectively.

Our National Commander proposed the use of a Vietnam Veterans' Week Telethon to the President of the United States. Unfortunately time was too short to accomplish the intent of the telethon. However, each of our American Legion Posts were asked to hold a special event to honor Vietnam Veterans during this week. Ad mats were prepared and sent to all major newspapers in the United States. The May issue of *The American Legion Magazine* carried special articles, as did the *ADVANCE*, a monthly publication which is sent to all Post Commanders and Adjutants.

Most of the individual Departments asked their Governor to sign a Vietnam Veterans' Week Proclamation.



American Legion officials prepare to board bus for tour of Dresden nuclear facility for briefings to enhance American Legion planning for further meaningful participation in effort to bring about meaningful solutions to nation's energy problems. Shown (left to right) are: Dr. S. F. Saracino, vice chairman, Internal Affairs Commission; L. Max Connolly and Joseph F. Ward, both National Vice Commanders, and James P. Dean, chairman, National Internal Affairs Commission.

The American Legion's National Kick-Off for Vietnam Veterans' Week was held in conjunction with the Indianapolis 500 and the 500 Festival Parade which was televised nationally. Our special guest was the Honorable Max Cleland, Administrator, Veterans Administration. He appeared on the float "Welcome Home" sponsored by The American Legion National Organization. He also took part in all festivities involved with this Memorial Weekend. It was a national event which proves that The American Legion truly welcomes home the Vietnam Veterans.

Ten prominent Vietnam Era Veterans of The American Legion were invited by President and Mrs. Carter to take part in a reception held on May 30 at the White House. These outstanding young men represented our National Organization at this reception which had as its theme "Welcome Home."

Regional Leadership Seminars

The Internal Affairs Commission was charged with the study of the concept of Regional Leadership Seminars to be held in September and October of this year immediately following this National Convention. Our study was presented to the Advisory Committee to the National Commander and to the May meeting of the National Executive Committee. This study indicated that all programs of The American Legion — Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation; Economics; Americanism — Children and Youth; Legislative; Membership and Public Relations should be brought to the post officer level of The American Legion and the Unit level of the American Legion Auxiliary.

These seminars will be held in eight regional areas with six Departments assigned to each area and include the above programs and those of the Auxiliary. In reality, every Legionnaire and Auxiliary member in those states can, in one weekend, be exposed to all of the great programs of The American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary. The program is designed to begin on Friday night and end on Sunday at noon.

It was the feeling of the Internal Affairs Commission and the National Executive Committee that this affords each Legionnaire and Auxiliary member the opportunity to learn about programs early in the year, but perhaps more importantly, post members can car pool to the seminars thus



Members of The American Legion's Internal Affairs Commission, joined by some National Executive Committeemen and other National Officers of the organization, are pictured here during tour of nuclear facility. The American Legion's participation in seeking solutions to the energy problem is the responsibility of the National Internal Affairs Commission and Division.

saving energy. With the energy situation becoming critical this summer and fall, the regional seminars will be a very big step toward saving our nation's energy supply. The full outline of the regional seminars will be found elsewhere in this Convention Program.

Membership and Post Activities

J. Ray Edmundson (Virginia), Chairman
Thomas J. Haynes (Colorado), Director

Membership Strength

Total official membership, 1978	2,637,241
1978 membership as of May 21, 1978	2,548,107
1979 membership as of May 21, 1979	2,549,253

The 1979 membership year has been one of successful implementation of innovative redirection within the organization. With the 1979 membership running ahead of this same date last year, it is quite evident that membership is once again on the rise and rightfully so. We are becoming younger and more visible as our nation's leaders among veterans. Our enrollment of Vietnam veterans is on the increase and we now exceed 700,000 among our ranks. This is compared to approximately 500,000 Korean veterans, 1,395,000 World War II veterans and approximately 105,000 World War I veterans.

1979 Commanders Who Dare

Twenty-five Post Commanders and 15 District Commanders will be guests of the National Commander at the 1979 National Convention. The 25 Post Commanders were drawn from approximately 1,300 Post Commanders whose posts had achieved an all-time high by March 31. The District Commanders are selected from those districts that had exceeded their last year's membership by May 1, 1979. These guests of the National Commander will receive special citations on the convention platform on the opening day of the convention. Several Department Commanders and Department Membership Chairmen will be selected to receive special recognition for excelling in membership in 1979. These programs are made possible by a special monetary awards system which continues to prove itself as an innovative membership tool.

16th Annual National Membership Workshop

The 16th Annual National Membership Workshop was held at National Headquarters, July 26-27, 1979. The goal of the 16th Annual Workshop was to achieve a greater participation on the part of individual Legionnaires in examining the membership objective of The American Legion. This exchange of ideas on a national scale continues to be one of the best methods of determining the future of The American Legion.

We will be looking forward to our 8 Regional Conferences where we will take our Membership Workshop to the field. These Regional Conferences are scheduled to be held in September and October.

New Posts POSTS CHARTERED 6/1/78 to 5/31/79

No. of posts as of 5/31/78	15,953
No. of posts cancelled as of 5/31/79	173
No. of posts chartered as of 5/31/79	118
No. of posts as of 5/31/79	15,898

New post formation in urban areas is one of the most difficult tasks confronting The American Legion. The Membership and Post Activities Committee, in cooperation with the Department of Colorado, has developed a "Metropolitan New Post Marketing Plan." This plan has been proven successful and is now being implemented in several departments. The premise of the plan is that any organization, no matter how great its programs or how large its membership, must continually adjust to the changes of the society it serves. The American Legion and its membership programs are no exception. The "Metropolitan New Post Marketing Plan" sets forth a method by which unchartered new communities may realize a new post and at the same time establishes a procedure for organizing the core city and reorganizing once active posts.

Operation Welcome Back

Delinquent cards sent to departments numbered 804, 847. Some 61,271, or 8%, have been returned so far. Of those returned, 1,983 deceased members have been removed from our rolls, and 4,214 members were identified as having bad addresses. Also, 42,412 were identified as having paid 1979 dues, and 11,423 were identified as having paid 1979 as a direct result of the Operation Welcome Back Program. We consider this to be an extremely successful program and are continually searching for ways to encourage departments to actively utilize Operation Welcome Back information.

"We Help America Work"

The Membership and Post Activities Committee has developed a comprehensive membership program for 1980 and years beyond. The membership theme for this program will be "We Help America Work." The committee feels that



National Membership and Post Activities Committee Chairman J. Ray Edmundson of Virginia looks on as Commander Carey draws the name of the first of 25 Post Commanders receiving free trips to the Houston Convention. The 25 were among more than 1300 who qualified for the monetary award because their posts had set all-time-high membership records prior to March 1st.

accomplishments of The American Legion since 1919 clearly exemplify the important role we play in shaping and maintaining our nation. It is through the courage and dedication of our association together that we as an organization meet the challenges of our community, state and nation. In selecting this program, the Membership and Post Activities Committee calls upon all Legionnaires to strengthen our bonds as members of The American Legion so that we might strengthen our ability to help America work.

Unofficial Membership Awards

Fifty Departments qualified for 1979 Early Bird Awards. Accordingly, citations were presented to the Commanders and Adjutants of Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Panama Canal Zone, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin and Wyoming.

By the close of the Veterans Day reporting period, twelve Departments had one hundred percent of their posts reporting one or more members for 1979. Citations were awarded to the Departments of Indiana, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Florida, Maryland, Nebraska, North Dakota, Mississippi, New Hampshire, Vermont, Nevada and Panama Canal Zone.

The Big Ten Departments for 1979 are Minnesota, Ohio, Nebraska, Maryland, Virginia, North Dakota, Arizona, South Carolina, Idaho and Wyoming.

FINANCE COMMISSION



Churchill T. Williams (Iowa), Chairman
Webber LaGrange (Indiana), National Treasurer
Paul M. Allen (Minnesota), Finance Director

The primary obligation of the Finance Commission is to prepare a yearly budget for submission to the National Executive Committee and to exercise reasonable control to see that the various divisions and/or departments of the National Organization operate within the approved appropriations. The Finance Commission is composed of seven

members with the National Adjutant as ex-officio secretary and the National Commander and National Treasurer are ex-officio members.

The Finance Commission, through a conservative policy on spending, is pleased to report a net income for the year ending in excess of one million (\$1,000,000) dollars. However, rising operational costs caused a \$654,779 decrease from 1977's net income of \$1,784,000. The net income is derived from annual membership dues plus income from Emblem Sales, Magazine advertisements and Finance Division's investments.

The National Organization received \$3.50 dues per member which is allocated as follows:

- \$1.75 to the General Fund
- \$1.50 to *The American Legion Magazine*
- \$.25 to Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation

The Funds provided to our Magazine and Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation no longer pay for those operations and the Commission found it necessary to provide additional monies from the General Fund as follows:

- Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation
13.5¢ per member or \$350,000
- The American Legion Magazine*
11.5¢ per member or \$300,000

The Commission also approved a \$60,000 contribution to the Pershing Memorial Fund which is to be used for construction of a museum.

A complete review was made on our insurance coverage, and based on our findings, the insurance on our Headquarters building was found to be inadequate; therefore, we increased this coverage as well as the Group Travel Accident Insurance policy. All other coverage is adequate at this time.

A full financial statement is incorporated in the Auditors Report and in addition, your attention is directed to the reports of Committees and Trusts which are the responsibility of this Commission and can be found elsewhere in this program.

- American Legion Child Welfare Foundation, Inc.
- American Legion Endowment Fund Corporation
- American Legion Life Insurance and Trust Committee
- American Legion Emblem Committee
- American Legion Overseas Graves Decoration Trust



Legionnaires crowd around the counter to buy American Legion merchandise at a Convention where National Emblem Sales set up a booth.

Obviously, in the preparation of budget recommendations prime consideration must be given to avoidance of "deficit budgets" and envisioning financial problems of The American Legion beyond specific proposals for the current year. Rising costs, as alluded to earlier, are eroding the surplus funds at an ever increasing rate.

The new fiscal procedures instituted this year have enabled us to better evaluate the expenditures of Legion money. Stringent controls are being used to hold down expenses in an effort to prolong a dues increase. The Finance Commission never enjoys recommending a dues increase, but we must face the inevitable and notify you that it is very probable an increase in dues will be necessary in the near future. We do not want to decrease the effectiveness of our programs, nor sacrifice the quality of service to our membership; therefore, we wanted to give advance notice of this impending action.

CONDENSED REPORT ON NATIONAL EMBLEM SALES DIVISION

Clayton C. Schlick (Iowa), Chairman
Alfred L. Lankenau, Jr. (Indiana), General Manager

The American Legion emblem is the exclusive property of the National Headquarters. The sale of the emblem, emblem pins, merchandise carrying the emblem and other items of organizational equipment is the responsibility of the National Headquarters in Indianapolis. The following tables show gross sales, net earnings, etc., for the entire calendar year 1978 and for the first three months of 1979.

January 1 to December 31, 1978 (12 months)

Gross sales	\$3,053,938
Cost of goods sold	1,884,653
Overhead	877,461
Operating profit including discounts taken...	291,824

January 1 to March 31, 1979 (3 months)

Gross sales	1,043,490
Cost of goods sold	624,077
Overhead	236,122
Operating profit including discounts taken...	183,291

THE AMERICAN LEGION LIFE INSURANCE AND TRUST COMMITTEE

Harold E. Heinly (California), Chairman
Gene L. Fattig (Indiana), Director

On April 1, 1979, the American Legion Life Insurance Plan marked its 21st anniversary and is now functioning strongly in its 22nd year. It was officially adopted by the National Executive Committee in Washington, D.C., on

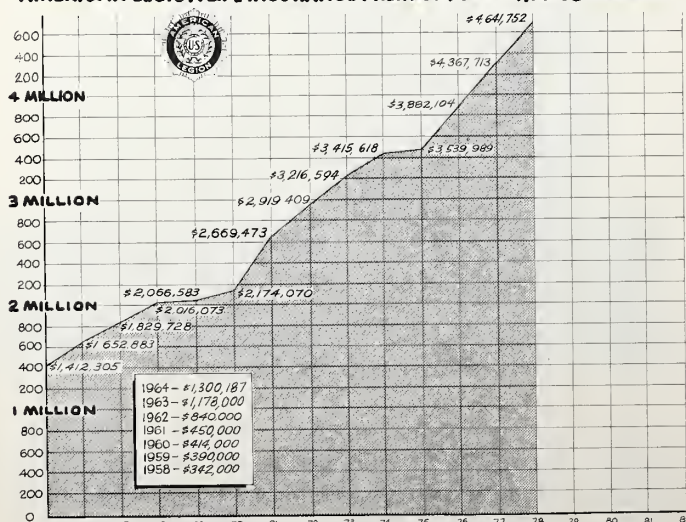
February 22, 1958. The Plan is one of the outstanding "Fringe Benefits" offered to membership. The Insurance Committee is assigned for jurisdictional purposes to the National Finance Commission and reports through the Commission to the National Executive Committee. The Insurance Department is staffed by a National Headquarters' employee who serves as Director of the Insurance Office, which is administered by the Youngberg-Carlson Company, Inc., housed in Chicago, Illinois.

Your Insurance Committee has met two times since the last report and is pleased to again announce that the plan continues to experience growth. This is due in part to the fact that The American Legion has recognized a need to keep pace with the economy of our nation. Consequently, the committee periodically sought approval from the National Executive Committee to increase the maximum number of units for which the members could apply under the Plan. The most recent action in that respect occurred January 1, 1976, when the maximum number of available units was raised from four to six. Legionnaires who are eligible for a maximum of \$40,000 protection before could now apply for up to \$60,000 in Legion Life benefits.

The National Executive Committee passed a resolution granting a 15% increase in all death benefits for the calendar year 1979. This is the tenth time, in the 21-year history in which an increase of this nature has been made. Example: The \$60,000 policy becomes \$69,000, and a \$10,000 benefit is worth \$11,500. The astounding fact is that cost per unit has never increased, it remains only \$24 a year.

This is a group plan and in fact, the largest (numerically speaking) of its kind in the country. It is underwritten by the Occidental Life Insurance Company of California. The coverage is arranged under a group policy for members in all states except permanent residents of Florida, Illinois, New Jersey, North Carolina, Texas, Ohio and Wisconsin, who are insured under individual policies. The United States Life Insurance Company insures permanent residents of New York and Puerto Rico.

AMERICAN LEGION LIFE INSURANCE PREMIUM GROWTH 1958 THRU 1978



The Insurance Plan is a polished tool, designed to attract the young potential members as well as help to retain members. Membership workers should not overlook this "fringe benefit program" when working to increase their Post's membership.

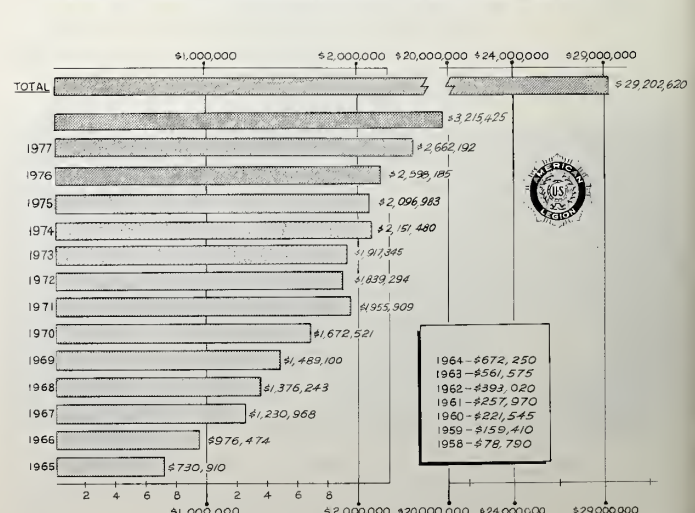
Premiums and/or contributions paid for 1978 coverage amounted to \$4,641,752. Contributions have continued to grow throughout the years. After the close of each calendar year and after all claims and administration expenses have been paid in the Group States, the unused premiums are placed in the American Legion Life Insurance Trust. There is in excess of three million dollars in this trust fund.

The American Legion Life Insurance Trust has for some years helped support the National Oratorical Contests and the American Legion Baseball Program. The expenditures for 1979 include \$220,000 for the Baseball Program and the awards for Oratorical Contests are as follows: \$8,000 for 1st Place; \$5,000 for 2nd Place; \$3,000 for 3rd Place and \$2,000 for 4th Place. In addition each of our 58 Department winners attending the regional contest receives a \$500 scholarship award. Without question, these two outstanding youth programs help shape tomorrow's leaders.

Over the past 21 years more than 18,500 death claims have been paid, totaling over \$30 million in benefits. During 1979, 1,060,500 Legionnaires received a multiple mailing of insurance brochures totaling 2,970,000 pieces. In addition 33,600 Legionnaires received a computer letter reminding them that the Plan provides additional units, should they wish to increase their present coverage. Considerable insurance information, as well as applications were mailed from the Chicago Insurance Office to thousands of Posts throughout the world and postage cost for this mailing alone exceeded \$8,000. During the fiscal year, October 1, 1978 to October 1, 1979, approximately \$187,000 will have been spent for advertising in *The American Legion Magazine*.

Each year on or about October 15 all insured Legionnaires are requested to report their next year's membership card number when tendering remittance to cover the annual premium due for the new calendar year.

AMERICAN LEGION LIFE INSURANCE PAID CLAIMS 1958-MARCH 31, 1979



Remember, your American Legion Life Insurance Plan always pays in addition to any other life insurance benefits; it is not intended in any way to replace any existing coverage you may have. It simply makes possible thousands of dollars of extra security at incredibly low cost.

For further information write to The American Legion Life Insurance Plan, 222 North Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois 60601, Attention: Gene L. Fattig, Director.

VETERANS AFFAIRS AND REHABILITATION COMMISSION



W. F. Lenker (South Dakota), Chairman
R. E. Lyngh (Colorado), Director

During the past year there has been considerable activity in the field of veterans affairs. A number of Public Laws were enacted during the closing days of the Second Session of the 95th Congress. In accordance with approved mandates, a staff representative of the Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Commission presented the views of The American Legion in support of these legislative proposals. We were more than encouraged by the results. Following are a number of measures enacted into law that liberalized the veterans benefits program. These are:

Public Law 95-479, approved October 18, 1978, increased the rates of disability compensation for disabled veterans, and dependency and indemnity compensation for survivors.

Public Law 95-588, approved November 4, 1978, which improved the veterans and survivors pension program.

Public Law 95-476, approved October 18, 1978, which, in addition to improving veterans housing benefits, likewise made a number of significant changes in other veterans benefits.



National Commander John M. "Jack" Carey presenting The American Legion Award for Distinguished Public Service to the Honorable Ray Roberts, Chairman, House Committee on Veterans Affairs.

The first matter to which the Commission addressed itself in the opening days of the 96th Congress, was the President's proposed budget for the Veterans Administration for Fiscal Year 1980. As we anticipated, the Administration's Fiscal Year 1980 budget for the Veterans Administration contained a serious shortfall in the appropriations requests for veterans health care. Such a cut back would seriously reduce the level of benefits and services that have been provided for the nation's war veterans. As this article is being written there is serious consideration being given by both Houses of Congress to this most vital problem. This Commission, in several appearances before Congressional Committees, has expressed its deep concern with regard to the operation of the VA Department of Medicine and Surgery.

The overall situation basically is this. The Veterans Administration is effecting reductions in beds, staff positions and funds in every Medical Center and Clinic in the country. While this is being done, VA is assuring Congress, the nation's veterans and the nation in general that these reductions will not adversely affect either the quality or quantity of health care services the agency will continue to provide to veterans during FY 1979 and FY 1980. We have, and will continue to inform the Congress, that The American Legion is in fundamental disagreement with the VA on this entire matter. It is our contention that the current and projected reductions have already begun to curtail both the quality and quantity of health care services to veterans, and that the curtailment will increase if the reductions are maintained and continued.

We can't foresee at this time what final action will resolve once the Congress responds to budget requests. Of one thing we can be certain. Should the Veterans Administration be permitted to effect proposed reductions in personnel and additional shortfalls in funding, then the results would be nothing short of disastrous. And, The American Legion is not going to sit still and let these things happen. The American Legion will not silently accept cutbacks in veterans programs in the name of economy. The nation owes more than that to its war veterans. In the coming months we expect to make additional vigorous presentations on the subject of the VA budget, to achieve full funding of veterans benefits programs.

As we move further into the legislative year one of the most important matters facing the Commission will be the



New officers for the Department Service Officers Association elected for the year 1979-80. Shown (left to right) following the election are: Al Krank (CA), Sergeant-at-Arms; Val Likens (IA), Vice President; Phil Gavin (MA), President; Moalton A. Lyles (France), Chaplain; and Fred C. Heinle (WI), Secretary/Treasurer.

bringing to the attention of the new Congress the possible impact on the veterans medical care program that is administered by the Veterans Administration, of National Health Insurance. The position of the Legion in this area is relatively simple — assurance that a National Health Insurance program, enacted by Congress, will not jeopardize the integrity of the present medical care program conducted by the Veterans Administration as one to be maintained exclusively for the care of the nation's veterans. The American Legion has been carefully studying this subject for the past eight years, and perceives a specific danger to the Veterans Administration program in a National Health Insurance plan designed to assure every American of cradle to grave medical care at Federal expense. The Legion's continued effort will be to assure that a Federal Health Care plan will recognize VA as a Federal provider of health services to veterans.

Another alarming development, to which we have already addressed ourselves, and which will be ongoing during this year, is the shortfall in budget authority to current staffing levels in the VA Department of Veterans Benefits. As this article is being prepared we are informed that the Department of Veterans Benefits would lose some 900 staff positions in FY 1980 — the phase-out of these positions has already begun. The prompt and correct adjudication of claims is the mission of the Department of Veterans Benefits, and their only clientele is composed of disabled veterans, their dependents and survivors. These individuals need and are entitled to the benefits they are seeking. We have already recommended to the Congress that personnel reductions in this area be held in abeyance, and that Congress direct the VA, and fund it, to be able to fulfill its mission, which is to assure the payment of benefits to eligible beneficiaries, with due promptness.

Other improvements in the veterans benefits program will be sought by the Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Commission under the mandates of the National Convention and the National Executive Committee. A substantial number of legislative proposals covering these mandates have already been presented to the 96th Congress. American Legion representatives have made a number of appearances before Congressional Committees, and more are scheduled.



The Honorable Max Cleland, Administrator of Veterans Affairs, addresses the 56th Annual National Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Conference.

In these subsequent hearings, we shall urge the Congress to consider priority in funding the VA Alcohol and Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation Programs; to provide sufficient VA health care facilities for the treatment of veterans with nonservice-connected disabilities; increases in disability compensation for veterans, their survivors, and dependent parents; and increases in educational and training assistance allowances.

We will continue our efforts to carry out The American Legion's established policies with respect to the rehabilitation and welfare of war veterans and their dependents, and we will remain alert to all developments in veterans affairs to insure that existing policies are carried out effectively.

NATIONAL SECURITY

(NO PICTURE AVAILABLE)

Donald C. Huntley (Michigan), Chairman
James B. Hubbard, Jr. (Michigan), Assistant Director

"We have all witnessed the disastrous results that have followed inadequate preparation for national defense. That those who follow us shall not suffer a like experience, we recommend and strongly urge upon Congress appropriations sufficient to adequately maintain . . . the national defense."

(5th National Convention, 1923)

This statement on defense, adopted nearly six decades ago, has basically remained the consistent policy of The American Legion. Then as now, the maintenance of strong defenses capable of protecting the sovereignty of the United States and of perpetuating our freedoms is imperative.



National Commander John M. Carey visits with Dr. Harold Brown, Secretary of Defense, shortly after the 1978 National Convention and presents the secretary with a bound copy of American Legion resolutions in the area of national security. Secretary Brown also had appeared as a speaker on the platform of the 60th Annual National Convention.

Today, with the state of international affairs, this policy should have special significance for our Nation as it should remind us of the period after World War I when we permitted our defense to vanish. Now while our national leaders debate the need for new weapons systems, our principal adversary, the Soviet Union, has pressed forward relentlessly in quest of strategic and conventional superiority. While the general public is aware of Soviet progress in the development of huge ICBMs, they are less conscious of their drive to build a modern navy and air force, and the large sums expended for research and development. At the same time, they have continued to modernize their conventional forces.

Only recently the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff warned that by the mid-1980s, the United States could lose its overall strategic advantage unless we renew our determination to insure the survivability of those Americans who follow us.

During the past year, the National Security Commission and Committees have labored to guarantee that our armed forces and their weapons systems are sufficient to assure the credibility of our policy of realistic deterrence. The President and his cabinet, committees and members of Congress and key government officials have been apprised of The American Legion's views on vital defense issues embodied in resolutions adopted by our National Conventions.

In addition, appearances have been made or testimony presented to the committees of the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives on key defense issues. The principal recommendations, upon which this testimony is based, include: support for the U.S. Navy; revitalization of the Selective Service System; modernization of the U.S. Air Force; support for the M-X system; retaining unquestioned sufficiency of our strategic forces; support for the Air Launched Cruise Missile; support for the Trident weapons system; support for medical care for military retirees; support for a strong U.S. Merchant Marine; and support for funding U.S. military commissaries. In its testimony, The American Legion has urged that the Congress insure the strategic superiority of our forces both now and in the future.



National Commander John M. Carey takes brief cruise aboard the nuclear aircraft carrier U.S.S. Nimitz, as a part of continuing program to keep The American Legion as knowledgeable as possible about the status of our armed forces and our national security posture.

ROTC MEDALS

Fifty Departments with ROTC units supported the ROTC program. The Departments promoted and publicized The American Legion ROTC Medals Program by encouraging their Posts to participate in the awarding of medals to outstanding young men and women enrolled in the ROTC programs. Posts responded to this encouragement by awarding 1,069 medals during the period July 1, 1977 to June 30, 1978. Presentations were made to 321 ROTC units located in 48 states, the Departments of France, and Puerto Rico, and in Spain and England.

BLOOD DONOR ACTIVITIES

Thirty-nine Departments actively participated in the American Legion Blood Donor Program. The Department of Maine received the first of two National Commander's blood donor awards for the highest percentage of Post participation — 100%. The second National Commander's award was won by the Department of California for the largest percentage of its membership participating in the Blood Donor Program.

Special emphasis was placed on the Holiday Blood Drive during 1978 in cooperation with the American National Red Cross. The American Legion continues to participate as a member of the Board of Directors of the American Blood Commission.

CRIME RESISTANCE

The American Legion National Crime Resistance Program continues to be a viable method of community involvement for local American Legion Posts. The Crime Resistance Booklet, published in cooperation with the FBI, and M. M. Eberts Post #1, Little Rock, Arkansas, is in its fourth printing. Over 50,000 copies have been distributed thus far to schools, Auxiliary Units, Legion Posts and other civic groups.

LEGISLATIVE

In testifying before the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee on April 10, 1979, James B. Hubbard, Jr., Assistant Director of the National Security-Foreign Relations Division, stated:

"Mr. Chairman, while we believe this budget will probably have a positive impact on improving the structure of the armed forces, there are several things it will not accomplish. First, from an economic standpoint, it is not realistic in

(Continued on page 128)



American Legionnaire Fred Rice presents American Legion scholastic award to Air Force R.O.T.C. Cadet Dana L. Çagle in ceremonies at the University of North Carolina.

GEO. S. OLIVE & CO.

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

320 NORTH MERIDIAN STREET
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204
317-635-8631

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MEMBER OF THE AMERICAN
GROUP OF C. P. A. FIRMS WITH
OFFICES IN PRINCIPAL CITIES

March 31, 1979

John M. Carey, National Commander,
The American Legion
National Headquarters,
Indianapolis, Indiana.

Dear Commander Carey:

We have examined the statement of financial condition of The American Legion National Headquarters as of December 31, 1978 and the related statements of income and changes in fund balances for the year then ended. Our examination was made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and, accordingly, included such tests of the accounting records and such other auditing procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

In our opinion, the aforementioned financial statements present fairly the financial position of The American Legion National Headquarters at December 31, 1978 and the results of its operations and its fund transactions for the year then ended, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.

Yours very truly,

Geo. S. Olive & Co.
Certified Public Accountants

PERMISSION TO PUBLISH EXCERPTS FROM THIS REPORT OR REFERENCES THERETO, WITH MENTION OF OUR NAME,
IS WITHHELD UNTIL THE FORM AND SUBSTANCE OF SUCH EXCERPTS OR REFERENCES ARE APPROVED BY US.

THE AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

Statement of Income

	Year Ended December 31	
	1978	1977
REVENUES:		
National dues	\$ 9,237,813	\$ 9,294,973
Deduct: Dues allocated to:		
Rehabilitation	659,288	663,455
Publications Division	3,959,883	3,983,452
	4,619,171	4,646,907
Dues available for current operations	4,618,642	4,648,066
Publications Division (including dues allocation)	6,264,269	5,845,284
Emblem Division	3,026,854	2,866,016
Restricted income	369,660	321,405
Other income	841,951	734,511
	<u>15,121,376</u>	<u>14,415,282</u>
EXPENSES:		
Publications Division	6,330,375	5,429,676
Emblem Division	2,762,112	2,583,092
Salaries and employee benefits	3,150,524	2,930,006
Executive and staff travel	291,297	305,543
Commission and committee	533,446	523,621
Operational	899,386	825,648
Office	489,981	479,958
Occupancy and usage	400,207	326,186
Special projects (net of related income)	539,230	462,341
Charges to other areas (Publications, Emblem, Children and Youth, Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation)	(1,404,403)	(1,384,461)
	<u>13,992,155</u>	<u>12,481,610</u>
NET INCOME — exhibit C	<u>\$ 1,129,221</u>	<u>\$ 1,933,672</u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

THE AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

Statement of Financial Condition

		December 31	
	ASSETS	1978	1977
CURRENT FUNDS:			
Cash on deposit and on hand.....		\$ 689,377	\$ 1,018,124
Accounts receivable:			
Emblem and Publications Divisions		335,800	306,621
Other.....		68,449	110,259
Inventories — at cost:			
Publications Division		638,457	811,480
Emblem Division		577,300	632,014
Prepaid expenses, supplies, advances and deposits		290,329	232,050
Investments — at cost (market value \$12,244,478 in 1978, \$11,048,150 in 1977) — note 3		12,750,445	11,009,448
Furniture, fixtures and equipment — at cost — net of accumulated depreciation of \$564,654 in 1978 and \$545,632 in 1977		406,383	298,631
Washington, D.C. real estate — note 4		845,117	845,117
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Total current funds.....		16,601,657	15,263,744
NONEXPENDABLE TRUST FUNDS:			
Overseas Graves Decoration Trust Fund:			
Uninvested cash		11,630	10,807
Investments — at cost (market value \$338,905 in 1978, \$344,415 in 1977)		379,289	368,773
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		390,919	379,580
Paid-Up-For-Life Membership Trust Fund:			
Uninvested cash		7,469	888
Investments — at cost (market value \$851,328 in 1978, \$630,606 in 1977)		880,363	636,485
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		887,832	637,373
Employees' Retirement Trust Fund — note 6:			
Uninvested cash		33,801	26,860
Accounts receivable from participating units		66,674	74,586
Investments — at cost (market value \$9,139,744 in 1978, \$8,489,169 in 1977)		9,567,757	8,651,609
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		9,668,232	8,753,055
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		\$27,548,640	\$25,033,752

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

December 31

LIABILITIES AND FUNDS		1978	1977
CURRENT FUNDS:			
Accounts payable		\$ 632,477	\$ 346,189
Employees' withholdings		5,527	16,093
Accrued state and federal taxes		969	4,093
Emblem merchandise undelivered		106,532	95,398
Membership life insurance premiums payable — note 2		524,900	519,295
Deferred income:			
Dues received in advance		3,944,667	3,911,883
Subscriptions received in advance		2,953,228	2,925,522
Current fund balances — exhibit C:			
Restricted:			
Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Fund		627,961	570,025
Children and Youth Fund		106,446	168,981
Restricted Fund — notes 3 and 5		3,035,164	2,738,054
Reserve Fund — note 3		1,935,243	1,735,046
Freedom Bell Fund		163,075	165,028
Pershing Memorial Museum Fund		60,000	—
Other restricted funds		85,096	72,450
Appropriated surplus reserves — note 5		1,434,722	1,113,605
Unappropriated surplus		985,650	882,082
Total current funds		<u>16,601,657</u>	<u>15,263,744</u>
 NONEXPENDABLE TRUST FUNDS — exhibit C:			
Overseas Graves Decoration Trust Fund:			
Fund balance		<u>390,919</u>	<u>379,580</u>
		<u>390,919</u>	<u>379,580</u>
 Paid-Up-For-Life Membership Trust Fund:			
Fund balance		<u>887,832</u>	<u>637,373</u>
		<u>887,832</u>	<u>637,373</u>
 Employees' Retirement Trust Fund:			
Fund balance		<u>9,668,232</u>	<u>8,753,055</u>
		<u>9,668,232</u>	<u>8,753,055</u>
		<u>\$27,548,640</u>	<u>\$25,033,752</u>

THE AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

Statement of Changes in Fund Balances Year Ended December 31, 1978

Current Fund Balances

	Restricted Funds	Appropriated Surplus Reserves
BALANCES, JANUARY 1, 1978	<u>\$5,449,584</u>	<u>\$1,113,605</u>
ADDITIONS:		
Dues allocated for rehabilitation	659,288	
American Legion Endowment Fund Corporation income transferred to The American Legion	450,000	
Contributions received	54,939	
Investment income credited directly to fund	210,156	
Oratorical contest prizes charged against current operations	44,000	
Net income — exhibit A	<u>1,418,383</u>	
DEDUCTIONS:		
Expenditures charged directly to funds	<u>1,559,518</u>	
INTERFUND TRANSFERS — note 5:		
Allocations per National Finance Commission resolutions	704,536	378,131
Partial reinstatement of reserves as unrestricted funds — amount equal to 1978 expenditures charged to current operations		(57,014)
	<u>704,536</u>	<u>321,117</u>
BALANCES, DECEMBER 31, 1978	<u>\$6,012,985</u>	<u>\$1,434,722</u>
	Exhibit C — sheet 3)	(Exhibit C — sheet 2) and (Exhibit B)

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Nonexpendable Trust Funds			
Unappropriated Surplus	Overseas Graves Decoration Trust	Paid-Up- For-Life Membership Trust	Employees' Retirement Trust
<u>\$ 882,082</u>	<u>\$379,580</u>	<u>\$637,373</u>	<u>\$8,753,055</u>
	22,357	284,514 55,704	908,650 514,218
<u>1,129,221</u>	<u>22,357</u>	<u>340,218</u>	<u>1,422,868</u>
<u>1,129,221</u>			
	<u>11,018</u>	<u>89,759</u>	<u>507,691</u>
(1,082,667)			
57,014			
<u>(1,025,653)</u>			
<u>\$ 985,650</u>	<u>\$390,919</u>	<u>\$887,832</u>	<u>\$9,668,232</u>
(Exhibit B)	(Exhibit B)	(Exhibit B)	(Exhibit B)

THE AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

Statement of Changes in Fund Balances Year Ended December 31, 1978

Current Appropriated Surplus Reserves

	Publications Reserve	Real Estate Reserve	Convention Reserve
BALANCES, JANUARY 1, 1978	<u>\$102,873</u>	<u>\$841,977</u>	<u>\$60,000</u>
INTERFUND TRANSFERS — note 5:			
Allocations per National Finance			
Commission resolutions	300,000		
Partial reinstatement of reserves as			
unrestricted funds — amount equal to			
1978 expenditures charged to			
current operations	<u>(41,733)</u>		
	<u>258,267</u>		
BALANCES, DECEMBER 31, 1978	<u><u>\$361,140</u></u>	<u><u>\$841,977</u></u>	<u><u>\$60,000</u></u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Employee Insurance Premium Stabilization Reserve	Special Membership Program Reserve	Indianapolis Renovation Reserve	Joint Chiefs Of Staff Reception Reserve	Total
<u>\$101,229</u>	<u>\$6,434</u>	<u>\$. . .</u>	<u>\$1,092</u>	<u>\$1,113,605</u>
34,223		45,000	(1,092)	378,131
<u>(8,502)</u>	<u>(6,434)</u>	<u>(345)</u>	<u></u>	<u>(57,014)</u>
<u>25,721</u>	<u>(6,434)</u>	<u>44,655</u>	<u>(1,092)</u>	<u>321,117</u>
<u>\$126,950</u>	<u>\$. . .</u>	<u>\$44,655</u>	<u>\$. . .</u>	<u>\$1,434,722</u>
				(Exhibit C — sheet 1)

THE AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

Statement of Changes in Fund Balances Year Ended December 31, 1978

Current Restricted Funds

	Veterans Affairs And Rehabilitation Fund	Children And Youth Fund	Restricted Fund
BALANCES, JANUARY 1, 1978	<u>\$ 570,025</u>	<u>\$168,981</u>	<u>\$2,738,054</u>
ADDITIONS:			
Dues allocated for rehabilitation	659,288		
American Legion Endowment Fund Corporation income transferred to The American Legion	315,000	135,000	
Contributions received	12,500	22,250	
Investment income credited directly to fund			202,574
Oratorical contest prizes charged against current operations			
	<u>986,788</u>	<u>157,250</u>	<u>202,574</u>
DEDUCTIONS:			
Expenditures charged directly to funds	<u>1,278,852</u>	<u>219,785</u>	
INTERFUND TRANSFERS — note 5:			
Allocations per National Finance Commission resolutions	<u>350,000</u>		<u>94,536</u>
BALANCES, DECEMBER 31, 1978 — exhibit B	<u><u>\$ 627,961</u></u>	<u><u>\$106,446</u></u>	<u><u>\$3,035,164</u></u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Statement of Changes in Fund Balances
Year Ended December 31, 1978

Reserve Fund	Freedom Bell Fund	Pershing Memorial Museum Fund	Other Restricted Funds	Total
<u>\$1,735,046</u>	<u>\$165,028</u>	<u>\$. . .</u>	<u>\$72,450</u>	<u>\$5,449,584</u>
				659,288
				450,000
			20,189	54,939
197			7,385	210,156
<u> </u>			<u>44,000</u>	<u>44,000</u>
<u>197</u>			<u>71,574</u>	<u>1,418,383</u>
	<u>1,953</u>		<u>58,928</u>	<u>1,559,518</u>
<u>200,000</u>	<u> </u>	<u>60,000</u>	<u> </u>	<u>704,536</u>
<u>\$1,935,243</u>	<u>\$163,075</u>	<u>\$60,000</u>	<u>\$85,096</u>	<u>\$6,012,985</u>
				(Exhibit C — sheet 1)

Notes to Financial Statements

NOTE 1 — SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES:

The American Legion National Headquarters reports for financial statement purposes on the accrual method of accounting recognizing income when earned and expenses when incurred.

The Legion, which is not taxable for federal income tax purposes (except on unrelated business income), maintains its accounts on a modified fund accounting basis wherein the Legion's accountability for a segment of its fiscal affairs is reflected in various restricted fund balances. While the Legion's general operations are reported in its statement of income (exhibit A), that portion of membership dues, contributions and other receipts and expenditures restricted for specific Legion projects are credited and charged directly to the respective restricted funds as set forth in the statement of changes in fund balances (exhibit C, sheet 3).

The Legion follows the practice of capitalizing significant additions to office furniture and equipment. These assets are being charged to general operations through depreciation charges computed on the straight-line method based on the estimated useful lives of the respective assets.

NOTE 2 — MEMBERSHIP LIFE INSURANCE PROGRAM:

In connection with The American Legion's Life Insurance Plan, the Legion has created a Trust fund to which the First National Bank of Kansas City, Missouri, as Trustee, holds legal title. The accumulated earnings from the Trust fund and the experience rating refunds and dividends from the insurers (which combined to a total of approximately \$3,273,000 as of December 31, 1978) may be used, as directed by the Legion, for any one or more of the following purposes:

- (a) To increase the fund.
- (b) To reduce or pay in full premiums thereafter due on the group insurance.
- (c) To provide additional life insurance benefits for the participants.
- (d) To make refunds to the participants.
- (e) To make distributions to The American Legion to be used in the support of its activities and programs serving the interest of the Legion and its members, provided that such distributions are not disapproved in writing by a majority of its insured members.

In accordance with the provisions of item (e) above, the Legion's National Executive Committee has approved partial funding of the oratorical contest and the baseball and other programs of The American Legion. Accordingly, as of December 31, 1978 the Trust has appropriated \$280,000 of accumulated earnings to be used for these designated programs during 1979.

NOTE 3 — INVESTMENTS:

At December 31, 1978, The American Legion carried the following investments as a part of its current funds:

	Book Value				
		Restricted Fund	Reserve Fund	Unrestricted	Total
United States Government Obligations:					
U.S. Treasury bills (A)		\$ 49,008	\$ 44,106	\$2,407,623	\$ 2,500,737
U.S. Treasury notes (B)		2,535,373	1,658,680	1,507,587	5,701,640
U.S. Treasury bonds (C)		445,495	231,854		677,349
U.S. Government Agencies (D)				2,714,828	2,714,828
Certificates of deposit (E)				1,150,000	1,150,000
		<u>3,029,876</u>	<u>1,934,640</u>	<u>7,780,038</u>	<u>12,744,554</u>
Uninvested cash		5,288	603		5,891
Totals		<u>\$3,035,164</u>	<u>\$1,935,243</u>	<u>\$7,780,038</u>	<u>\$12,750,445</u>

- (A) Maturity dates range from February 6, 1979 to October 16, 1979.
- (B) Maturity dates range from January, 1979 to May, 1988. Coupon rates range from 6½% to 8½%.
- (C) Maturity dates range from February, 1980 to May, 1985. Coupon rates range from 3¼% to 6½%.
- (D) Maturity dates range from June 4, 1979 to August 1, 1979.
- (E) Maturity dates range from January 5, 1979 to May 15, 1979.

NOTE 4 — ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION — WASHINGTON, D.C. REAL ESTATE:

Since 1969 annual depreciation of the Washington, D.C. property has been credited to the accumulated depreciation balance with a corresponding amount of investments and cash added to the funded depreciation reserve. Earnings of the funded depreciation reserve are unrestricted and have been reflected as other income in the statement of income. The following is a summary of the carrying value of the Washington, D.C. real estate at December 31, 1978 and 1977:

	1978	1977
Building and site — at cost	\$845,117	\$845,117
Deduct: Accumulated depreciation	401,253	385,433
	443,864	459,684
Add: Funded depreciation reserve (securities and cash — market value \$375,274 in 1978 and \$386,711 in 1977)	401,253	385,433
	<u>\$845,117</u>	<u>\$845,117</u>

NOTE 5 — INTERFUND TRANSFERS:

During the year ended December 31, 1978, the National Finance Commission authorized certain allocations from the Legion's unappropriated current funds (surplus) as follows:

- (A) \$350,000 to the Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Fund to provide the capital to continue the prescribed purposes of the Fund.
- (B) \$60,000 to establish the Pershing Memorial Museum Fund for donations toward the construction of the Pershing Memorial Museum.
- (C) \$300,000 to the Publications Reserve to provide the capital to continue the prescribed purposes of the Fund.
- (D) \$45,000 to establish the Indianapolis Renovation Reserve to be used for building renovation costs at the National Headquarters.
- (E) \$200,000 to increase the Reserve Fund, the principal portion of which can be expended only by action of the Legion at its national convention and by action of the National Executive Committee.
- (F) \$34,223 to the Employee Insurance Premium Stabilization Reserve to provide the capital to continue the prescribed purposes of the Reserve.
- (G) \$94,536 to the Restricted Fund pursuant to a resolution adopted by The American Legion Tenth Annual Convention which provides that as of December 31 each year, the National Finance Commission is to set aside in the Restricted Fund at least 50 per cent of the net surplus accruing during that year.

In addition, the National Finance Commission approved the closing of the remaining balance in the Joint Chiefs of Staff Reception Reserve, which purposes had been accomplished, to unappropriated surplus.

NOTE 6 — EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT PLAN:

Since 1944, The American Legion has maintained a retirement plan for all eligible employees of the national headquarters and the Legion's various affiliated and subordinate groups. Contributions to the plan are made by the national organization and by the other participating groups on the basis of annual actuarial valuations. The annual cost as determined by the actuary is computed using the aggregate cost method. This method includes in normal cost any past service costs. The value of the fund assets exceed the vested benefits. Pension expense amounted to \$636,638 in 1978 and \$601,398 in 1977.

NOTE 7 — LEASE CONTRACTS:

During 1977, the Legion entered into an operating lease for computer equipment through July, 1982. The minimum monthly rental under the agreement, which is modified whenever the components of the equipment are changed, currently amounts to \$19,384. Total rental expense for computer facilities under this lease was \$224,868 in 1978 and \$200,003 in 1977.

In addition, the Legion has a lease with the State of Indiana for rental of the national headquarters building in Indianapolis. According to the terms of the lease, which expires in November, 1981, in lieu of rental payments the Legion is required to maintain the interior of the building, as well as provide adequate insurance on the building. The cost of maintenance and insurance approximated \$281,400 in 1978 and \$233,900 in 1977. The Legion has the option of renewing the lease with the same terms through November, 1985.

AMERICAN LEGION ENDOWMENT FUND CORPORATION

Harry W. Colmery (Kansas), President

Foreseeing the necessity for a regular annual income to support its war veterans rehabilitation and child welfare programs, The American Legion, in the year 1925, conducted a national campaign for contributions to support those two programs. The proceeds from the campaign were placed in the custody of the American Legion Endowment Fund Corporation as trustee, a goal of \$5 million having been set and generous contributions being received.

The corporation was incorporated in 1925 under the laws of the State of Delaware and a trust agreement was entered

into between The American Legion and the Corporation under which the funds were administered by the Corporation and the annual net income therefrom was paid to The American Legion for the use of the two programs described.

The financial condition of the Endowment Fund is summarized as shown below for each of the five preceding years. The figures shown were taken from the annual audits of Geo. S. Olive & Co., Indianapolis, Indiana.

	December 31, 1978	December 31, 1977	December 31, 1976	December 31, 1975	December 31, 1974
TOTAL ASSETS	\$7,258,445	\$7,159,699	\$7,439,164	\$7,456,915	\$7,455,736
Net interest received	\$ 560,767	\$ 485,658	\$ 517,708	\$ 515,387	\$ 516,609
Expense	14,841	18,738	14,192	12,683	15,350
Excess of income					
Over expense	\$ 545,926	\$ 466,920	\$ 503,516	\$ 502,704	\$ 501,259
Earnings transferred to The American Legion ...	\$ 450,000	\$ 675,000	\$ 525,000	\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000
Yield on average book value of Securities (percent)	8.14	7.96	7.47	7.44	7.44

NATIONAL SECURITY

(Continued from Page 115)

terms of inflation and price increases. The 3% projected rise in real terms will be an illusion without a substantial FY '80 supplemental appropriation if inflation continues at its present rate.

"Second, this budget does not give a priority to defense expenditures over domestic expenditures. Relative to the growth of social welfare programs, defense will continue to decline.

"Last, this budget does nothing to offset the major improvements made by our potential enemies over the past decade. This is the signal we are sending to the rest of the free world. It is not a positive signal."



Congresswoman Marjorie S. Holt of Maryland, a member of the House Armed Services Committee, addresses members of The American Legion's National Security Commission during 1979 Washington Conference.

AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS

Formation of an American Legion Auxiliary was authorized by action of the First Annual National Convention of The American Legion in Minneapolis, Minn., in November of 1919.

The American Legion Auxiliary, comprised of nearly one million wives, mothers, daughters, sisters and granddaughters of America's wartime veterans is acclaimed by The American Legion and recognized in many quarters as being the most efficient and effective patriotic women's organization in the world.

With an organizational structure patterned after that of The American Legion, the programs, policies and principles of the Auxiliary coincide to a substantial degree with those of the parent organization. For example: During the year now ending, The American Legion entered into a cooperative relationship with the Special Olympics program for retarded persons, and the American Legion Auxiliary also has joined in whole-hearted support of that program.

The commission and committee structure of The American Legion and the Auxiliary are pretty much parallel

throughout all levels of both organizations from national right on through the Post (Legion), and Unit (Auxiliary) levels.

The ladies organization lends powerful support to the major programs of The American Legion from the areas of National Security and Foreign Relations, right on through the Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation work of the Legion to the Americanism-Children & Youth Programs.

Through both direct financial support, and "people power," the Auxiliary contributes heavily to the success of American Legion programs and while it may come as a surprise to some, the support of the Auxiliary in the area of National Security is as active and as effective as that which is provided to Veterans Affairs and Children & Youth programs.

One of the more highly visible programs of the Auxiliary is the annual Memorial Day Poppy program which serves more than the single purpose of raising funds to support other projects. The poppies are made by hospitalized veterans, who are paid for their work, and which serves as a therapeutic program for them as well as providing them with some extra spending money. Additional proceeds from the sale are used to further Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation work.

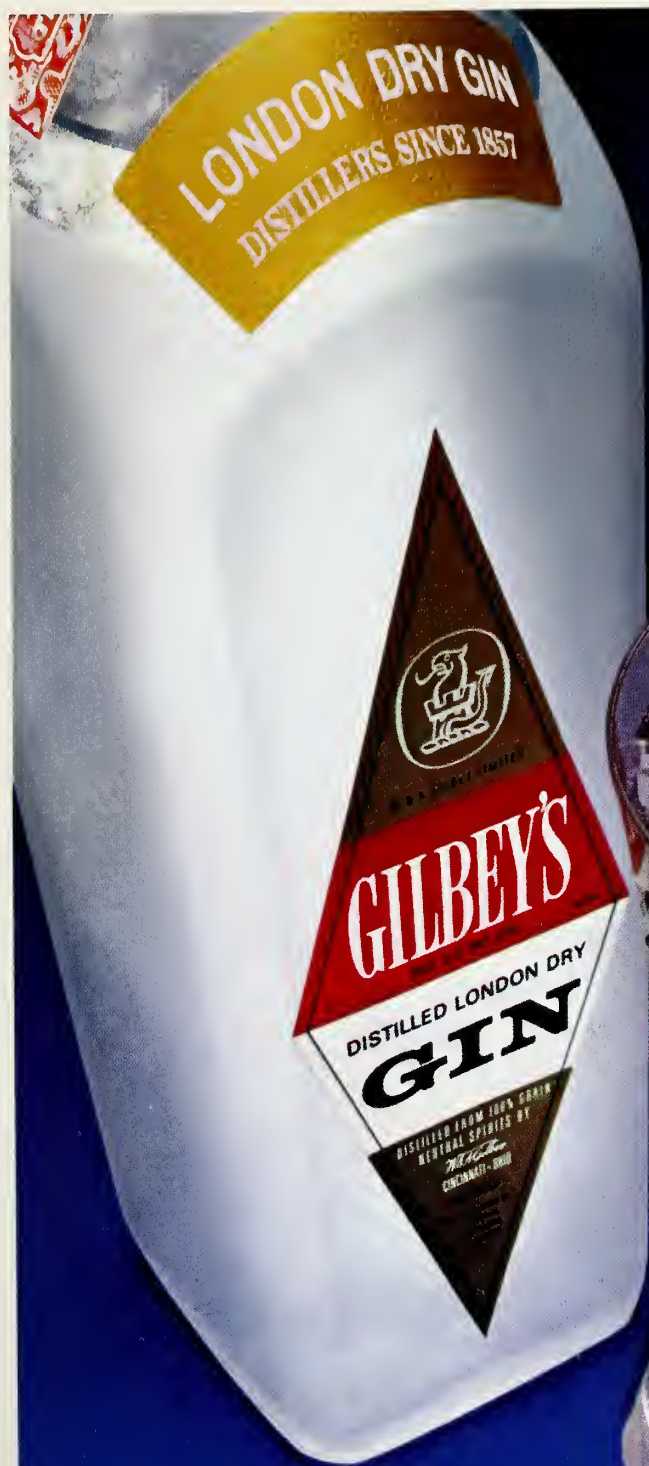
Mrs. Earl (Maxine) Bigalow, of Medford, Oregon, now is serving as National President of the Auxiliary, and her term will run through the 1979 National Convention to be held concurrently with The American Legion's 1979 National Convention in Houston, Texas.

The Auxiliary also has an affiliate organization, the Eight and Forty, making it also an affiliate of The American Legion. This smaller and most energetic organization also has its specific delegated responsibility from the Auxiliary, which is in the area of Children & Youth work and encompasses responsibility for activity in the field of respiratory diseases.



The American Legion Auxiliary always has generously supported the ongoing programs of The American Legion both with financial assistance and with "people" support. National Commander John M. Carey expresses appreciation for this continuing support upon accepting a check from National President Maxine Bigalow during Spring, 1979 National Executive Committee meetings. It is on this occasion the National Commander normally pays off his traditional friendly membership wager to the National President.

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Brussels, 1893

Antwerp, 1894



London, 1888



Paris, 1889



Edinburgh, 1890



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